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COLLECTORS GAZETTE

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SPECIAL FEATURE

THUNDERBIRDS!

Jamie Anderson on the lasting legacy of his father's incredible show



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Could vintage badges be the next big thing?

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fortune?



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The man with the world's
biggest pedal car collection

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continental collectables

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Corgi Toys 60th Anniversary Special Sale July 2016



July 2016 is the 60th Anniversary of the introduction of Corgi Toys. We will be holding an auction of fine models, datelined from 1956 to 1972, to celebrate one of the greatest ranges of diecast toys ever made. We expect a great deal of interest, so we invite you to consign early for this exciting event.

For further information on our regular sales or to get a valuation please contact:
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■ AUCTION REPORT

MAKE MINE MILK

Dairy-themed promotional van has the white stuff at Vectis Auctions' August diecast sale.

YOU can always bank on Vectis to have some fine vintage items in its sales and that was certainly the case during the 11th August Specialist Diecast auction, which included a selection of quality Corgi pieces.

Among the top lots was a Corgi Toys No. 335 Karrier Bantam 'Drive Safely on Milk'. This particular issue was interesting as it had been sent from Ford Dunlop, Birmingham to The Milk Marketing Board, where it was passed before being issued. In generally mint condition, the bright blue van came in an excellent plus plain card box. Estimated at £300 to £400, it realised £750.



Corgi Toys No. 335 Karrier Bantam 'Drive Safely on Milk', as sold at Vectis Auctions.

However, it was pipped to the post by a Corgi Toys No. 333 BMC Mini Cooper S 'RAC Sun International Rally' in excellent plus condition, complete with its plain white cardboard box with 'Sun Corgi Mini' and '1000 Winners' along the

sides. There was even a facsimile letter dated 1967. Estimated at £500 to £600, the Mini raced to £850.

Elsewhere, there was plenty of interest in a Corgi Toys No. 201m Austin Cambridge Saloon with orange body, silver trim, flat spun hubs and mechanical motor. In near mint condition, the car more than quadrupled its low estimate of £150 to make £680.

Finally, there was a little bit of small screen glamour with a Corgi Toys No. 497 The Man from UNCLE Thrushbuster in off-white with a super inner pictorial stand with correct packing pieces. It sold for £750. ■



No. 333 BMC Mini Cooper S.

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Collectors Gazette is published monthly by Warners Group Publications Plc, The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH, England.

» **Newtrade Distribution**
This magazine is distributed by: Warners Group Publications Ltd
Tel: 01778 391150



This publication is printed by Warners 01778 395111

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■ LEGO has just launched the latest selection of its hugely popular Minifigures range, which this time is inspired by monsters and ghosts... hmmm, anyone would think that Halloween is just around the corner. Available for £2.50 each, the Minifigures series has become the most popular toy in the UK and there's a decent re-sell market too - particularly for rare examples. They're becoming increasingly popular items at toy fairs, so watch out for them there.

■ AUCTION REPORT

CAMPING IT UP

Corgi Martin Rambler Camping Set among the diecast highlights at Lacy, Scott & Knight's August auction.

AFTER first holding a one-off toy sale back in the 1980s, Lacy, Scott & Knight has become one of the premiere vintage toy sellers in the country and expert Oliver Leggett has a real eye for quality. This reputation for fantastic collectables was demonstrated in Lacy, Scott & Knight's latest sale last month.

"After a busy viewing with many commission bids left on the book from far and wide, we were looking forward to a good sale," Oliver told the Gazette. "With a good offering across all sections, including a fantastic sourced local Sutcliffe Boat collection,

a large offering of Corgi and Dinky Toys, plus many rare and desirable train-related items, the sale was a success.

"We were pleased to see a busy sale room on sale day, with many new faces, both young and old, travelling from far to see what items we had on offer. In particular, I was very pleased with the performance of the Corgi Toys section of our sale, in which there was competitive bidding from strong collectors."

The competitive bidding resulted in some great prices, including a Corgi Toys Gift Set 10 – Martin Rambler Camping Set, which sold for £400 against a £200 to £300 estimate. Another Corgi toy that performed well included

a No.447 Walls Ice Cream Van, which sweetly rose to £460, well above a £300 400 estimate.

"With this in mind, we are also pleased to announce we have another very good offering of diecast vehicles in our sale on 15th November," added Oliver, "including a very rare Dinky Toys No. 901 Foden Diesel 8-Wheel Wagon in two tone green."

However, it wasn't just the diecast that performed well in the sale and Oliver reported he was very happy with the performance of certain items in the OO gauge section. One item in particular was a Wrenn W2278 'Blue Funnel' unbuilt Merchant and Navy Class locomotive finished in wartime black that achieved £400. ■



Above you can see the charming Corgi Toys Gift Set 10 – Martin Rambler Camping Set, while to the left bidders melted over a No. 447 Walls Ice Cream Van.

■ AUCTION REPORT

MELLOW YELLOW

Stroud Auctions had a wide selection of items in its August sale and, although many wouldn't have broken the bank, there were still plenty of decent collectables that made well over their pre-sale estimates.

One such example was a Corgi Toys No. 227 Morris

Mini Cooper Competition Model finished in 'primrose yellow' and sporting the number one. In its original box, and pegged at £80 to £120, the Mini made £180. Someone may have grabbed a bargain there, as the latest Ramsay's has it listed at £300 to £400.

Another diecast highlight

came courtesy of a Tri-ang Spot-On No. 106A/00 1/42 scale Austin Prime Mover with articulated flat float in BMC dark blue livery, complete with its original box. The truck more than doubled its low estimate and achieved £140.

It was followed by a slightly

tatty Spot-On Tri-ang 1/42 scale ERF 68G No. 109/3, again with its original box. Despite the lackluster condition it still realised £90, after being estimated at just £20 to £40. Perhaps someone fancied a restoration project? ■



Corgi Toys No. 227 Morris Mini Cooper Competition Model in 'primrose yellow'.

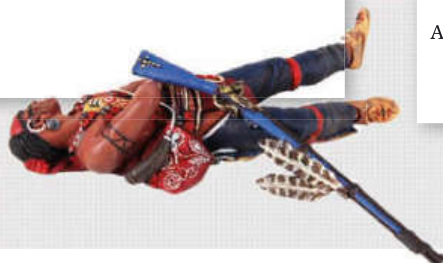
NEW RELEASES THIS MONTH

BRITAINS EASTERN WOODLAND INDIAN CASUALTY 2

Release: Out now Price: £30.50

Admittedly not the most cheerful of subjects from Britains but one of the new entries in its Clash of Empires series should be admired for the incredible paint work. Britains really does have a supe

>> www.brit



LEGO STAR WARS – THE FORCE AWAKENS

Release: Out now Price: Various

Revealed as part of the 'Force Friday' celebrations in which numerous toy makers unveiled their upcoming wares, LEGO

announcing a host of Force Awakens kits, including rather superb Millennium Falcon. www.lego.com



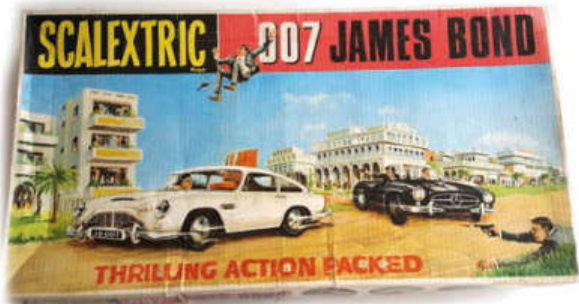
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■ AUCTION REPORT

LICENSED
TO SELL

One of the best Scalextric sets ever made – well, at least in our opinion – the 007 James Bond Motor Racing set featuring the famous spy in his Aston Martin racing to catch up with a dastardly bandit in a Mercedes Benz, took top spot at M&M Auctions' Specialist Farm Toys, Diecast Models and Collectables sale on 1st August. The set included both cars, along with track, figures and instructions, plus some extra bits and bobs that weren't originally included. Sadly the inner packing piece was a reproduction but the box itself was the real deal. Estimated at £800 to £1,200 the bidders spied a deal at a reasonable £900.

Also on the slot car front was an Electric Road Racing Set featuring The Professionals. That's right, those British crime busters from the 1970s and '80s received their own high-speed toy, courtesy of Ideal Toys. This action-packed

collectable included a black Transit van for the villains and a silver Capri S for The Professionals. It sold for £150.

Well, seeing as we're on the subject of slot cars – what about a radical set featuring the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles? Cowabunga dude! Made by Scalextric in 1991 (at the height of the Heroes in a Half Shell's fame), the 'Turtles to the Rescue' set features some appropriate green track, along with a yellow pick-up and the Shell Raiser van. Estimated at £80 to £120, it sold for a turtlely awesome £100.

Finally, from M&M's slot car selection was another famous superhero – your friendly neighbourhood Spider-Man! Again from Scalextric, the link to Spider-Man was tenuous at best, as it only featured the Webbed Wonder on the box and on the bonnet of the cars. Still, that didn't put off one comic book fan, who paid £80 for it. ■

GRAHAM FARISH

LNER APPLE GREEN PEPPERCORN A2

Release: Out now Price: £159.95

Here's a beautiful model loco from Graham Farish that wouldn't look out of place in a display cabinet, never mind on your layout. The rich green finish is applied superbly and the attention to detail on this small replica is top notch.

>> www.bachmann.co.uk



5K

Wallis & Wallis is selling diecast from a man who has collected more than 5,000 models!

20

eBay has recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. Just imagine all those fees!

440

We meet the man who owns a record breaking 440 pedal cars. See pg.20.

50

More than 50 Matchbox models were found in an old desk at East Bristol Auctions recently. See pg. 9.

11K

Scalextric raised £11,000 after selling a huge track for charity.

NEWS IN
BRIEF

>> PIZZA THE ACTION

A former pizza delivery boy had a taste for speed after donating more than £11,000 to Children in Need to bag a specially designed Scalextric racing track. The track was built by Hornby Hobbies and designed by British Formula 1 veteran Martin Brundle. Measuring an impressive 45m in length, the track was made from 177 pieces and was based on iconic features from Grand Prix tracks around the world. James Swift, the man who bought the track said: "The track first caught my attention back in June when Martin first designed it, my friend even tried to contact Martin about having the set, so I was delighted when I saw that it was up for auction." It will now have pride of place in his garage.

>> LEGO GETS A LEG UP

As if anyone needed any more proof of LEGO's current dominance of the toy market, the Danish company recently reported an 18 per cent jump in its sales for 2015, ensuring it surpassed \$2.14billion! Then again, that probably shouldn't come as a surprise when you realise the firm released 300 new sets from film licenses like Jurassic World to fantasy-themed pieces like the new LEGO Elves. Sales are likely to be boosted further this year with the new Star Wars: The Force Awakens series.

>> CHICHESTER ANNUAL MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

The Chichester Annual Model Railway Exhibition takes place on Saturday, 24th October from 10am to 4.30pm. The event will feature 18 layouts in N-gauge, TT, OO, O and 16mm narrow gauge, plus there will also be train rides on a live steam engine. What's more, there will be six traders selling all manner of model railway items, along with a specialist toy auctioneer who could help to put a value on your toys (not just model railway items). The show takes place at the Chichester High School for Boys, Kingsham Road, PO19 8AE. Entry is £5 for adults, under 12s £2 and seniors £4. For more information call 07777681292 or visit www.chillions.org/modelrail

>> ON THE BUSES

A Tri-ang Minic tinsplate Routemaster Bus was among the big hitters at British Toy Auctions' August sale. The bus, complete with a clockwork mechanism and two keys, came in a London Transport livery with 'Ovaltine' and 'Bisto' advertisements to the sides. The destination was Mitcham, The Cricketers. In very good condition, with minor paint loss, the bus realised £110, which was £10 under the top estimate.

>> TREATS AT TOWNSEND

There was a decent selection of Dinky diecast at Townsend Auction Galleries in Norfolk last month, many of which were available for very reasonable prices. Take, for example, a boxed Dinky No. 942 Foden 14-ton Tanker 'Regent' that made £65, while a boxed Dinky No. 905 Foden Flat Truck with chains realised £80 and a boxed No. 981 British Railways Horsebox sold for £60. Meanwhile, in the Corgi offerings, the highest price went to a Gift Set No. 27 Machinery Carrier with Bedford Tractor Unit and Priestman Club Shovel that realised £70.

>> INTERESTED IN MINIATURE WARGAMING?

Those of you out there who like miniature wargaming from a fantasy or science fiction perspective may be interested to hear the latest issue of Tabletop Gaming magazine is available to buy now. The publication covers a wide range of tabletop games, from miniatures-based games like Kings of War or Beyond the Gates of Antares, to classic board games such as Cosmic Encounter. Check www.facebook.com/tabletopgamingmagazine for details.

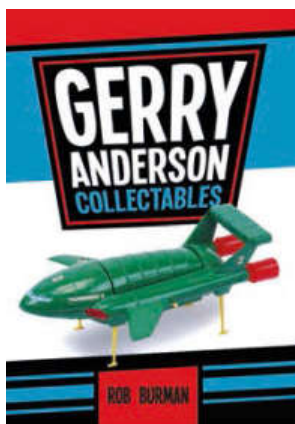
■ NEW BOOK

GERRY ANDERSON COLLECTABLES

IT appears the editor has been at it again [*Ed – you've got no proof... oh, I see... carry on...*] this time penning a new book rounding up a selection of Gerry Anderson-inspired toys and games... perfect timing considering the 50th anniversary of Thunderbirds is just around the corner.

The book begins with Anderson's first project The Adventures of Twizzle before moving on to big hitters Stingray and Thunderbirds, then finishing with cult classics Joe 90 and Terrahawks.

In terms of toys covered you have, of course, got the Dinky classics such as Thunderbird 2 or Captain



Scarlet's Spectrum Patrol Vehicle, which are joined by iconic pieces like the Century 21 large-scale replicas. However, there are also less well-known

toys, such as the Fairylite action figures and Lone Star guns.

Although not a comprehensive guide of all the Anderson toys out there, it does provide a neat starting pointing for those just beginning their collection or if you fancy a trip down memory lane, thanks to the numerous full colour photographs.

Gerry Anderson Collectables is published by Amberley Publishing and is available to buy now. In the meantime, make sure you read our interview with Gerry Anderson's son Jamie on page 14, as he talks about the legacy of his father's incredible work. ■

■ Seems that it's not only empty diecast boxes that can cause a stir at auction. Recently Aston's Toy Auctions in Dudley sold a wide range of empty videogame boxes and accessories, some of which were very sought after by the bidders. Here you can see a selection of SEGA Mega Drive boxes that sold for £45, just over £1 each.



■ AUCTION REPORT

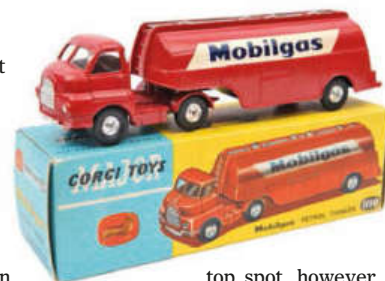
GREAT DANE

Wallis & Wallis continues to sell a super collection of Corgi Toys from Danish collector Allan Cornelius.

THROUGHOUT its past few sales Lewes-based auctioneer Wallis & Wallis has been selling some absolutely top class Corgi diecast from a Danish collector called Allan Cornelius. Since he started collecting in 1984, Allan put together a spectacular collection featuring more than 5,000 models!

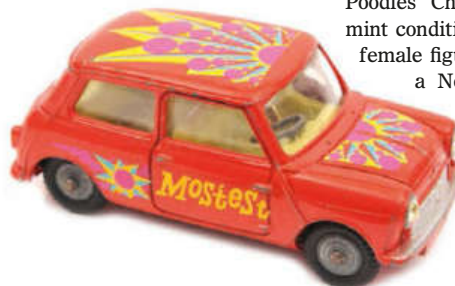
After kicking things off in June, the Cornelius collection was back for Wallis & Wallis' August sale. One item that certainly caught our attention was the No. 349 'Pop Art' Mini Minor – well that psychedelic finish will always stand out in a catalogue. In good condition, with some light chipping, this '60s icon realised a respectable £250... right in the middle of the £200 to £300 estimate.

Just pipping the Mini to the



top spot, however, was a Major Toys No. 1110 Mobilgas Petrol Tanker with Bedford 'S' Type cab and fitted with dished spun wheels. In very good condition, and in its original box, the petrol tanker pumped the bidders to make £260, which was £100 over the top estimate. Meanwhile another Mobilgas tanker, this time the No. 1140 with Bedford 'TK' type cab realised £90.

Elsewhere in the sale a mint No. 438 Land Rover (109" WB) finished in light brown with a red interior and cream plastic canopy sold for £230; a No. 511 Chipperfields Performing Poodles Chevrolet Impala in mint condition but missing the female figure made £160 and a No. 303S Mercedes-Benz 300SL Open Roadster complete with driver and in mint condition realised £120. ■



NEW RELEASES THIS MONTH

OXFORD RAIL 7-PLANKS

Release: Out now Price: £8.95 (each)

After earning a well deserved reputation for its quality (and affordable) diecast offerings, Oxford Diecast is now turning its attention to model railways. Its first release is a selection of common wagons that will certainly find place on plenty of steam-era layouts.

>> www.oxfordrail.com



CORGI

CORPORATION Release: Out now Price: £29.99

Available with either Glossop or Hyde destinations, Corgi has once again pulled off a very neat vintage double decker, which is sure to go down well with period bus enthusiasts.

>> www.corgi.co.uk

OXFORD DIECAST MESSERSCHMITT KR200 ROUGE SARDE

Release: Out now Price: £4.45

After releasing its superbly detailed 1/18 scale version of the unusual 'bubble car', Oxford is back again with an equally charming 1/76 edition. There's plenty of detail to admire on this little smasher.

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100SL Ford Zodiac Bright Blue/Grey Bxd. M	E225	115	Bristol Metallic Green Bxd. VNM.	E280	193	NSU Prinz. Beige. Bxd. Mint	E220
101 Armstrong Siddeley Met Gn. Bxd NM	E295	119	Meadow Frisky B/Black Bxd. VNM.	E140	193	NSU Prinz. Grey Bxd. Mint.	E245
102 Bentley 2 zone grey. M. Boxed.	E325	120	Fiat Multipla Pale Blue Bxd. Mint.	E190	210	Morris Mini Yel-Lemon Int.UB. Mint.	E780
103 Rolls Royce Met gn/Silver. Bxd. VNM.	E330	155	Austin Taxi Black Bxd. VNM	E170	210-1	Royal Mail Van Deep Red.	
104 MGA Peppermint. UB. NM.	E145	157	Rover Blue-Red Int Bxd. Mint.	E230		Scarce Box.VNM.	E320
104 MGA Red/Grey. Bxd. VNM.	E240	157	Rover Pale Blue-Crm Int. Bxd. Mint.	E240	210-2	GPO Van. Bxd. VNM.	E320
104 MGA Pale Blue/Cream. Bxd. VNM	E275	157SL	Rover SL Grey Bxd. Mint.	E240	256	Jaguar Police Black. Broken sign	
104 MGA Pale Turquoise/Gry Bxd. Mint	E275	157SL	Beige-Lemon Int. VM	E240		but persent. Bxd. Exc. Plus.	E250
105 Austin Healey Red/Grey Bxd. VNM	E275	161	Land Rover Light Grey Bxd. NM	E170	260	Rolls Royce Wedding. Burg. Bxd. M	E395
105 Austin Healey Met Bl/Crm Bxd. Mint	E330	161	Land Rover Grey. Bxd. NM.	E155	261	Volvo P1800 Pale Blue. Bxd. VNM.	E270
107 Jaguar SS Met Blue/Crm Bxd. Mint.	E330	166	Renault Floride Wht Bxd. NM.	E180			
107 Jaguar SS Pale blue/grey Bxd. VNM	E315	166	Renault Floride. Bl. Bxd. Mint.	E195			
108 Triumph TR3 Green/Grey Bxd. Mint.	E365	183	Humber Snipe Bl-Wht roof Bxd. Mint	E270			
108 Triumph TR3 Pale Bl/Gry. Bxd. VNM.	E275	183	Humber Snipe. White-Bl roof.Bxd.M	E285			
108 Triumph TR3 Met Grr/Grey. UB. Exc.	E 75	184	Austin A60with Ski's. Beige.UB. Mint	E150			
112 Jenson Lemon/Black Bxd. VNM.	E225	191	Sunbeam Convertible. Turq Bxd. Mint.	E150			

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THIS IS A SMALL SELECTION. MANY OTHER DINKY, CORGI, TEKNO, SPOT-ON & PATHFINDER MAY BE VIEWED ON THE WEBSITE

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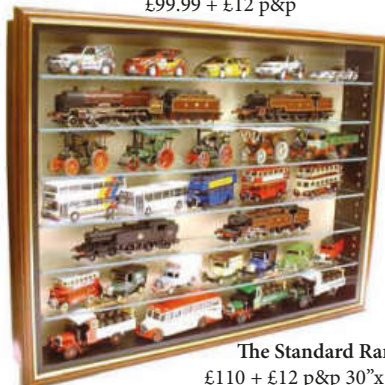
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■ AUCTION PREVIEW

WHAT A DESK-OVERY!

More than 50 mint in box Matchbox cars discovered in the bottom of an old desk by East Bristol Auctions.

WHAT'S lurking at the back of your desk? Old receipts? Some forgotten diaries? Well, for one lucky East Bristol Auctions Vendor, it was something rather different! Andrew Stowe from the auctioneer has been in touch to let us know about one lady vendor who makes some of Oz's lucky finds look poor in comparison.

During a routine spring clean, the lady client had asked a relative to help her move her husband's desk. As the relative struggled to lift the rather large desk there was a loud 'clunk,' as several parts fell off. Assuming the worst, the desk was put down and the fallen pieces retrieved. Much to the dismay of the lady, the plinth to which the desk had been attached had fallen off.

However, contained within the two cavities between plinth and desk were around 50 Matchbox Lesney diecast cars, each within their original box.



Here's the desk in question, along with a Matchbox 1-75 Series No. 26 Cement Mixer found hidden away.

Having already consigned some items to East Bristol's next toy sale, the lady picked them up and dropped them off for valuation.

"The vendor brought in what looked like two desk drawers, each filled with Lesney models," explains

Andrew. "At first, I didn't really think twice about them, as they just looked like run of the mill models but it wasn't until about a week later when I got round to looking at them that I suddenly realised these were rather special.

"Upon finding a receipt

told me that her husband had obviously bought them new and unbeknownst to her, and had created these two little plinths for his desk and stored them inside."

Andrew went on to say that, thanks to being stored safely in the dark for decades, the models are as "fresh as the day they were purchased". Although many of the models are just standard issue versions, the condition is super. "To find such a unique time capsule collection of Lesney is amazing," added Andrew. "They are essentially brand new." The unique collection appears in East Bristol's next Games, Trains & Automobiles Sale on 24th October. Also consigned in the same auction is a large private collection of Subbuteo teams and sets, plus a large quantity of Star Wars action figures and playsets. ■



underneath the cars, I phoned the vendor to enquire where they came from. Somewhat bemused by my request, she

MORE NEW RELEASES...

NEO ASTON MARTIN DB4 GT BERTONE JET 1961

Release: Out now Price: £70.99

There's plenty to love on Neo's rendition of the iconic DB4, from the chrome finish to the detailed spokes on the tyres. Plus, at just over £70, it's not going to break the bank for 1/43 scale collectors.

>>



REVELL STAR WAR – THE FORCE AWAKENS

Release: Out now Price: Various

LEGO isn't the only one planning some fantastic Force Awakens collectables and plastic kit maker Revell is also getting in on the action with some, quite frankly, fantastic pieces. This is Poe's X-Wing Fighter.

>> www.revell.com

OXFORD DIECAST DATSUN 240Z

Release: Out now Price: £22.95

There's brand new tooling on this delightful Datsun from Oxford. Finished in 1/43 scale, there's some nice detailing on the finish and the red paint job is particularly luscious.

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In April 1979 London Transport announced a new 'Shop Linker' bus service designed especially for shoppers to enable quick and easy travel to many of London's greatest West End stores. Sixteen Routemasters were selected and all were repainted in a distinctive yellow and red livery.

Our newest model depicts one such Routemaster, RM 59, registered VLT 59, as it would have appeared in its first few weeks in service as a Shop Linker.

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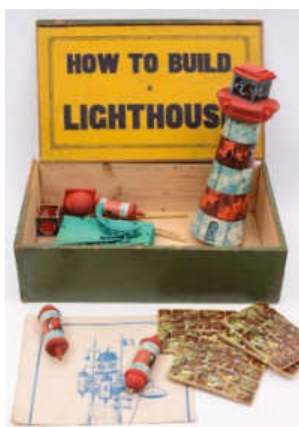
■ AUCTION REPORT

LIGHTING THE WAY

Unusual wooden lighthouse among the top lots at Bearn's Hampton & Littlewood in Essex.

AN early 20th century How to Build a Lighthouse set marked 'RJ, London' shined out among the lots during the Sporting & Collectors sale at Bearn's Hampton & Littlewood last month.

The set included nine stained pine blocks that could be used to build a pretty impressive lighthouse, complete with lifeboat, turrets and, of course, the all-important light. It was all contained in a nice pine box, complete with the instructions.



Estimated at £100 to £120, the kit realised a bright £680.

However, does anyone know a little bit more about the company? Sadly our brief research drew up a blank – the only 'RJ, London' listed is a modern paints and acrylics company. Were there more sets like this? Over to you, dear reader... ■

What a spectacular piece... but do you know more about the maker?

■ AUCTION REPORT

FEELING GOOFY

FIRST introduced in 1932, Goofy is the hapless dog created by Walt Disney and originally known as Dippy Dawg in Mickey's Revue – his name and appearance were later changed in a new short film called The Whoopie Party. Since his introduction he has become one of Disney's most-loved characters and has inspired numerous toys over the years.

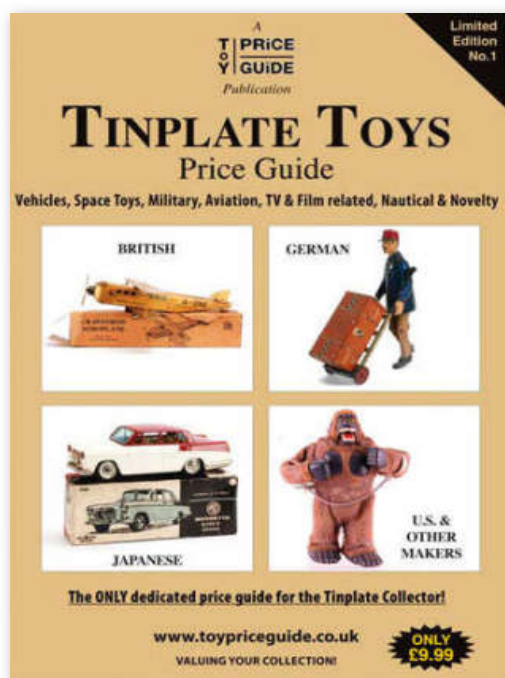
One such toy was on offer at Tamlyn's Collectors Sale on 11th August, the example in question being a Marx Toys Goofy the Walking Gardener, originally made in the 1950s. This large tinplate figure measures more than 20cm tall and, when operated, Goofy



pushes along a little yellow wheelbarrow.

Although in generally good condition, Goofy was missing one leather ear, but the piece did come in its original box. Estimated at £180 to £220, the bidders must have been goofing around because it sold for slightly under that at £150. ■

EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER



NEW PRICE GUIDE!

This month we have a new price guide from Toy Price Guide Publications available to our readers.

A new 100 page price guide containing over 500 colour pictures covering 134 of the world's finest tinplate manufacturers during the last 120 years, the guide offers a brief history on each make together with identification marks to help the collector spot rarities within their collection.

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■ HOBBY NEWS

TOY COLLECTORS PRICE GUIDE

Autumn edition of the app covers hundreds of collectables from around the world.

GOOD news for you tech wizards out there because the latest digital version of the Toy Collectors Price Guide is now available to download. This digital edition, available on iPads and other tablets, brings together hundreds of auction results from the past few months to give you a quick reference of potential valuations for your own collectables.

In the 'autumn edition' we've also selected

some of the best features from previous issues of the Collectors Gazette, including a celebration of Hornby's factory in Margate, a look at potential electronic collectables of the future and we remember some classic Man from UNCLE toys – good timing considering the new film is currently in cinemas.

Also on the subject of the Toy Collectors Price Guide, it

won't be that long now until the print version is hitting the shelves. You'll be able to buy our annual bumper auction run down from 13th November and we'll have details on how to order your copy in the next issue. ■



■ AUCTION REPORT

MAD FOR MATCHBOX



Matchbox 1-75 Series No. 27 Cadillac Sixty Special and No. 74 Mobile Refreshments Bar

AMONG the model railways, Star Wars, resin replicas and more at Toy 444's latest web-only sale, there was a neat selection of individual Matchbox cars, trucks and buses. Many sold for above their pre-sale estimates; proving there's still plenty of interest in these tiny treats.

Top spot went to a Matchbox 1-75 Series No. 27 Cadillac Sixty Special in the rare metallic green and cream finish. In very good to excellent condition and complete with a very good box, the Cadillac raced to £320, which was £20 over the top estimate. Ramsay's 15th edition lists eight different versions of this particular vehicle, with the most valuable being the one mentioned here. Also look out for a metallic lilac version with a black base and black plastic wheels.

Elsewhere a No. 74 Mobile

Refreshments Bar, finished in pinkish cream, served up a treat too. In very good to excellent condition with a very good box, the munch mobile crept just over its £250 low estimate to achieve £260. Meanwhile, a version of the same model but in white made £100, based on a £60 to £80 pre-sale estimate.

Another couple of highlights came courtesy of a pair of No. 75 Ford Thunderbirds, which were both in very good to excellent condition and in very good boxes. They sold for £60 and £70 respectively, which was also spot on the £40 to £60 pre-sale estimate.

Finally in our Matchbox round-up is a No. 21 Bedford Coach, measuring 68mm and with grey plastic wheels. Again in very good to excellent condition and with a very good box, the coach realised £55. ■



■ Here's something a little special, this Matchbox No. 35c Merryweather Marquis Fire Engine was a factory pre-production issue with numerous subtle differences, including a different roof, four rectangular holes at the rear, a smooth base with no copyright information and the side lockers are missing their lifting handles. The model was used by artist Ron Jobson to produce the box artwork and he kept it until 2011. It was sold last month at Vectis Auctions for £4,800.

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NEXT MONTH NOVEMBER 2015

*Editorial contents may be subject to change where necessary

» BACK TO THE FUTURE

Collectables inspired by the famous films.

» HORNBY DUBLO

Mark Nolan concludes his series on Hornby.

» SPACED OUT

Gerald Edwards on British space toys of the '50s.

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Thunderbirds

Rob Burman celebrates 50 years of the famous show and interviews Gerry Anderson's son, Jamie.

**SPECIAL
FEATURE**



MAIN IMAGE Century 21's Thunderbird 2 came with Thunderbird 4 inside the 'pod' and a more pedestrian green Jeep.

COLLECTORS GAZETTE FACT SHEET

• THUNDERBIRDS 2086

One of the little known facts about Thunderbirds is that its popularity in Japan led to the creation of an animated Japan-only version of the show called Thunderbirds 2086. Although not recognised as part of the official Thunderbirds canon, there were 26 episodes made. The number of vehicles was upped to an impressive 17 and, once again, each had their own speciality and pilot. Sadly there are no toys based on these new vehicles.

From the iconic opening title sequence, featuring the booming voice of actor Peter Dyneley as he says "Five, four, three, two, one... Thunderbirds are go!", Gerry Anderson's Thunderbirds has become one of the most famous TV shows in history. First broadcast on 30th September 1965, it's incredible to think that only 32 episodes were made and the series came to end in December the following year. Yet despite this short run, it has been repeated numerous times on television and even spawned a brand new series called Thunderbirds Are Go! in 2015.

Set in the year 2065 (most of Anderson's shows tended to take place 100 years into the

future), Thunderbirds tells the adventures of International Rescue, a heroic group of brothers who travel the world to help those in need. Created by ex astronaut Jeff Tracy, the organisation includes his five sons (Scott, John, Virgil, Gordon and Alan) along with chief scientist Brains and London agent Lady Penelope who is joined by her loyal butler Parker.

However, arguably the reason why Thunderbirds became such a phenomenon is the incredible vehicles piloted by the Tracy brothers:

- **Thunderbird 1** – a hypersonic rocket plane piloted by Scott Tracy
- **Thunderbird 2** – a supersonic carrier aircraft used to

transport smaller rescue vehicles in 'pods', piloted by Virgil.

- **Thunderbird 3** – a more typical rocket, piloted alternately by Alan and John, along with Scott as co-pilot.
- **Thunderbird 4** – a submarine normally launched from Thunderbird 2 and piloted by Gordon.
- **Thunderbird 5** – a space station that monitors distress signals around the world, manned alternately by Alan and John.

Although not to be outdone, Lady Penelope also has her own mode of transport, in the shape of FAB1, a modified bright pink Rolls-Royce with six wheels and hidden missiles.

Although Gerry Anderson had created hit shows before – such as Fireball XL5, Supercar and Stingray, Thunderbirds was arguably his crowning achievement. That's because it featured many of the great bits from the previous shows: spectacular launch sequences like Fireball XL5, a team of heroes travelling around the world to rescue those in distress like Supercar and incredible action sequences (some of which were underwater) like Stingray.

However, not only was Thunderbirds a brilliant TV show, it also coincided with what many consider to be the 'golden age' of toys, with diecast companies like Dinky and Corgi pushing each other to bigger and greater things,

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ABOVE As well as making the Tracy brothers, Fairylite made Lady Penelope too.

while manufacturers such as Century 21 were developing incredible plastic toys too. The result is that, thanks to the wonderful vehicle designs featured in Thunderbirds, the show went on to inspire a selection of toys that are still highly sought after today.

THE LEGACY

To find out more about Thunderbirds toys – from the Dinky FAB1 to the Century 21 Thunderbird 2 and more – we spoke to Gerry Anderson's son Jamie about the legacy of his father's work. Firstly, we asked why he thinks the toys are still so popular today... and not just with the people that watched Thunderbirds when it was first broadcast in 1965.

"The popularity of the

toys reflects the repeated generations that enjoy dad's shows. It's not just the people that watched the series originally either, so there's everyone in their 60s and 70s, down to my neighbour's five-year-old kid who love them,"

recognisable."

In fact, it's those designs that Jamie credits with helping to ensure the lasting appeal of Thunderbirds toys. "They were great vehicles in the first place, so any toys based on them would have also

wasn't the same as it is now. Now everyone is thinking it's a licensable, merchandisable design, whereas then it was just Derek Meddings and co. coming up with amazing designs."

You often hear that when

of the toys. I certainly remember for the revival of Thunderbirds in the 2000s and the Vivid toys, dad was desperate for them to be top quality and he worked with Mackinnon & Saunders, the puppet maker in Manchester, on some sculpts of all the brothers to make sure the faces were right. He didn't want any poor versions to be out there," added Jamie.

"He would be more likely to get a kick out of the fact that kids were playing with the toys and enjoying their own adventures, than for people just to say they loved watching

They were great vehicles in the first place, so any toys based on them would have also been good. It was a natural fit but not because they were designed to be toys.

explained Jamie. "I've seen kids begging their parents to buy some of the older toys – like the Dinky or Matchbox ones – out of a charity shop. Even if they're a bit battered or played with, the designs are so strong that they're still

been good. It was a natural fit but not because they were designed to be toys," he told the Gazette.

"I think the thing is that they weren't designed to be toys, as such, especially in the early shows because the toy market

someone creates such a hit TV series or book, that they're never happy with any products inspired by them... so did Gerry Anderson like the toys based on Thunderbirds? "I think my dad was generally very impressed by the quality



What some people may find surprising is just how popular Thunderbirds became in Japan. In fact, new toys are being made all the time and one of the best Thunderbirds toys was made by a Japanese company.



Of course, there were numerous toys apart from the vehicles made by various companies. This is a super Thunderbirds-themed bagatelle from American toy giant Marx. Just look at that artwork!



When Thunderbirds was revived in the 1990s, Matchbox had a whole host of new items for people to play with, including the infamous Tracy Island set that caused arguments in toy shops around the country.



ABOVE Thunderbird 4 from Century 21 could also be used in water!



ABOVE Century 21 also made a battery-powered version of Thunderbird 1.

Thunderbirds.”

But what about Jamie, surely he was in a great position to play with all his dad's amazing toys? “I didn't really own any of the toys as a child but I was really lucky during the 1990s revival when everyone was clamouring for a Tracy Island and dad actually brought one home, so a lot of my friends were extremely jealous,” Jamie told us.

“The only legacy of the toys in our house was that dad had a display cabinet that had one version of each of the Dinky toys in. So he had a perfectly preserved FAB1, a mint Shado Mobile, the blue Thunderbird 2... everything was in there! I would always stare into the cabinet, hoping I might be able to get in when I was tall enough, so I could reach the key and unlock it while he was out.

“He didn't keep much, I mean, he didn't have any scripts or any props from the show, things like that, but the fact that he did keep the toys is an indication that he must

have been proud that they existed.”

THE TOYS

In terms of toys, Thunderbirds is one of Gerry Anderson's most successful shows with numerous diecast vehicles, plastic replicas, puppets, plastic guns, dolls, toy figures... the list goes on and on. Trying to cover them all

Penelope's FAB1. It competed with Corgi's innovative releases, like the Batmobile, thanks to a number of stellar features, including a hidden missile that can be shot from a secret compartment behind the grille, four harpoons that are fired from the rear and plastic figures of Lady Penelope and her loyal butler Parker. However, Dinky wasn't

Available in metallic blue and, show accurate, green, Dinky's Thunderbird 2 was a firm favourite among kids in the 1960s and is still highly sought after today.

Along with Dinky, some of the other impressive Thunderbirds toys came courtesy of Century 21 Toys. If that name sounds familiar it's because Century 21 was the

even produced Thunderbirds branded water pistols and Lady Penelope-themed jewellery.

However, what's really wonderful about the Century 21 products is that many of them were at the cutting edge of toy production in the late 1960s and made use of remote control functions. Take, for example, FAB1, which comes

Perhaps one of the most surprising elements of Thunderbirds' success is how popular the show has been in Japan, with manufacturers such as Bandai, Takara and Eidai Grip, all standing by for action.

here would be an impossible task, so instead let's look at some of the key releases.

Some of the most famous came from Dinky Toys and its Thunderbirds range was the first TV and film-inspired releases from the historic company. In an effort not to be outdone by arch rival Corgi, Dinky turned its attentions to the small screen and in 1967 launched No. 100 Lady

finished with Thunderbirds and the same year it released No. 101 Thunderbird 2 and 4. The shape of the real thing is captured perfectly and, here's the most exciting part, it features a removable cargo pod just like the version seen on the show. By popping down some extendable plastic legs, the cargo pod could be ejected then opened up to reveal a tiny Thunderbird 4 inside.

production company behind some of the later Anderson shows, like Captain Scarlet, but in the 1960s it also started producing music, comics and, most importantly, toys!

Century 21 worked with toy maker J Rosenthal on a series of incredible large-scale plastic replicas based on the vehicles piloted by the Tracy brothers, along with Lady Penelope's FAB1. Rosenthal

in friction-powered and battery-operated varieties. It's the latter that's the most impressive with a remote control to allow forward/reverse movement, wheels that can be locked to allow it to steer, headlights that come on when the car moves and even hidden guns... just like the 'real' thing.

Although one of Century 21's most interesting pieces

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The boxes from Dinky feature some really wonderful artwork.



In the 1990s the Thunderbirds even inspired these toy figures, given away by Kellogg's.



ABOVE Keen to keep up with competition from arch rival Corgi, Dinky certainly went to town with play features on FAB1.

BELOW Not quite like the version seen in the show, this is Century 21's take on Thunderbird 5.



ABOVE The iconic Dinky Thunderbird 2 is arguably the best known of all the Anderson toys.

was actually inspired by the smallest vehicle: Thunderbird 4. This plastic battery-operated toy could be zoomed along on the living room carpet or you could even take it in the bath to recreate your favourite watery rescue missions. A propeller at the rear ensured it could move in water... although let's hope those in danger weren't expecting a speedy recovery because it's not exactly fast!

Of course, it's not just the vehicles that were made into toys and some of the most valuable Thunderbirds collectables are a range of 12-inch action figures created by British firm Fairylite. In a similar vein to Palitoy's Action Man, these large figures came with fully jointed bodies, allowing them to be placed in a series of different poses, along with gorgeous cloth costumes accompanied by a series of accessories.

Fairylite produced 10 characters: Scott, Virgil, Alan, Gordon, John, Jeff, Brains, Parker, Lady Penelope and

Tin Tin. As you would expect, the Tracy brothers come in their International Rescue garb, while Brains has his lab coat and Jeff is sporting a kind of sports casual number, complete with polo neck jumper. Although sought after now, in the late '60s large action figures like these hadn't really caught on, meaning that Fairylite didn't produce them in huge numbers. As a result they can command exceptionally high prices. Back in 2001 Vectis sold a set of six for £1,175, while earlier this year Lady Penelope and Tin Tin sold for £130 and £120, respectively.

BIG IN JAPAN

Perhaps one of the most surprising elements of Thunderbirds' success is how popular the show has been in Japan, with manufacturers such as Bandai, Takara and Eidai Grip, all standing by for action with their own Thunderbirds-inspired toys. Although the colours are often a little bizarre – Eidai made

a golden Thunderbird 1 for example – and plenty hail from Thunderbirds' second burst of popularity in the early 1990s, there's no denying the cultural impact Thunderbirds has had in Japan.

In fact, in 2012 a special Thunderbirds-themed café opened in Tokyo and the following year the Japanese National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation ran its own Thunderbirds exhibition showcasing props and vehicles from the show, along with descriptions of how the special effects were executed.

Thunderbirds certainly seemed to fit into Japan's love of outrageous vehicles and the spirit of a team working together, as seen in plenty of later animation series such as Beast King GoLion (known as Voltron in the West) and Science Ninja Team Gatchaman (Battle of the Planets) from the early 1980s and 1970s respectively. In these shows a group of young heroes would have to overcome the odds in their

specially designed vehicles in a similar fashion to Thunderbirds. Likewise, the toys for Thunderbirds based around the vehicles would have also fitted in very nicely with the spectacular tinplate UFOs or robots being created in Japan during the 1960s and 1970s by firms like Aoshin, Daiya or Modern Toys.

However, for one of the most spectacular Thunderbirds toys ever released we don't actually have to travel back to the 1960s or 1970s because Takara produced the definitive Thunderbird 2 as recently as 2005. Measuring a mighty 54cm long from the nose to its engines, this is almost as detailed as the model seen in the show.

Made from plastic the model features elements such as hidden missiles, an opening cockpit complete with tiny figure of Virgil and automatic extending legs that allow the pod to be opened up. In fact, the pod is one of the most impressive elements of the model because that has

removable parts to allow you to see a fully detailed interior complete with various buttons and switches. Originally Takara's Thunderbird 2 cost around the £150 but its fame has spread and in just 10 years the price has begun to rocket – rather like Thunderbird 2 itself. Last year one sold at Vectis for £400 but they often trade on eBay for around £600.

Before we blast off, we asked Jamie what he thinks the future will hold for Thunderbirds... "With Thunderbirds Are Go! I'm not sure if those toys will become collectable in 30 years time. On the one hand there are just so many toys around now so everything is more disposable but I think occasionally you still get a diamond in the rough that does have that persistent entertainment value and I think that Thunderbirds is one of those."

"I hope that in 30 years the Dinky ones will be worth 10 times their value now and that the new Thunderbirds brings a new audience to it as well." **CG**

Double Oheaven

**HORNBY
DUBLO**

PART 2

In part two of **Mark Nolan's** history of Hornby Dublo, he remembers the golden years from 1953 to 1958.



ABOVE The Perfect Table Railway; N2 0-6-2 tank loco with three wagons and brake van. *Courtesy of Vectis Auctions.*



RIGHT The Perfect Table Railway; N2 0-6-2 tank loco with two maroon suburban passenger coaches with later pierced windows.

COLLECTORS GAZETTE FACT SHEET

+ MORE INFO

From the start, the Dublo range had included metal buffer stops and signals with tinplate arms. There were also attractive wooden buildings including a goods depot, signal box, short and long tunnels, island platform and through station. Post war station buildings, platforms and signal boxes were cast in aluminium, probably to enable easier mass production. The range also included a turntable, level crossing, station footbridge and an attractive girder bridge.

It took quite a long time for the stringent restrictions of the war to release their grip on toy production. When production restarted in 1948, preference was given to the overseas markets as they generated hard currency. Meccano initially focused on manufacturing more components for its famous construction toy; after all, it was the easiest product to manufacture, and had always provided the foundation and income to develop new lines.

The most noticeable change in the Dublo range, apart from the completely redesigned couplings, was the disappearance of the clockwork locos, which did not reappear after the war. Another significant change was the nationalisation of the big four railway companies.

British Railways came into being in 1948, but it took until April 1953 to convert the Dublo range into the new liveries. This mirrored the real railway, which took a similar time to rationalise and repaint its rolling stock. However the reason Meccano's plans were delayed was because in March 1951, the fragile economy was suddenly back to a war footing due to the UK's commitment with the UN in the Korean War. Severe shortages, especially of brass, copper and nickel, but also some grades of steel, meant that new production had to be seriously curtailed, to the extent that Meccano had to close down a brand new factory for 18 months. However this did enable Dublo stocks in the old liveries to be run down systematically and without waste.

By 1953, the Hornby

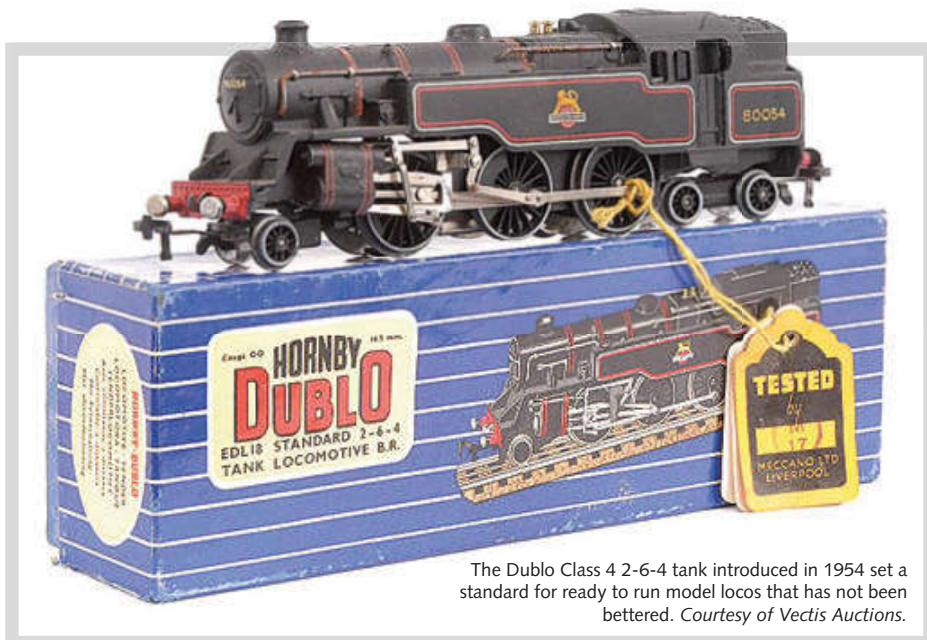
Dublo system was now 15-years-old. Although its development had been much delayed by world events, a wealth of manufacturing and operating experience had been acquired. As soon as the Korean War shortages were overcome, the revision and expansion of the range took place at breakneck speed. This was a period of new-found prosperity and confidence in the UK, and Meccano Limited did its very best to meet the pent up demand for new introductions, not only in Dublo but in all its other product lines as well.

All prewar plans went into production, including a level crossing, large radius curves and electrically operated uncoupling rails (remote uncoupling had always been a holy grail, which

necessitated the change in coupling design). The next five years saw Meccano and its Hornby-Dublo range in an unassailable position.

A TRIO OF SUPERB LOCOS

By 1954 the need for a new locomotive was obvious. Meccano did not disappoint, coming up with one of the most iconic locos, both in real life and model form; the BR Standard Class 4 2-6-4 tank loco. Once again the loco was particularly well proportioned, full of interest, with lots of wheels and a satisfying valve gear, all of which still look good today. They look right running forwards or backwards, and they look right hauling passenger or freight trains. Variations of the 2-6-4 tanks have, of course, been produced by other



The Dublo Class 4 2-6-4 tank introduced in 1954 set a standard for ready to run model locos that has not been bettered. *Courtesy of Vectis Auctions.*



The Dublo GWR Bristol Castle express loco, considered to be the first mass produced loco deserving of the epithet 'scale model'. *Courtesy of Vectis Auctions.*

manufacturers since but the Dublo version has something special. As a result many non-Dublo train collectors make an exception and include this loco in their collection.

Three years later the major release of 1957 was

universal acclaim, both as a toy and as a scale model. The following year saw the release of the 8F 2-8-0, an ambitious model that, again, captured the imagination and attention of men and boys across the land.

altogether while the suburban coaches were upgraded with pierced windows, promptly appearing in new sets. March 1957 saw the introduction of an operating mail coach; this was one of Meccano's rare forays into train models with

simpler unpowered design, which worked off a raising ramp with mechanical plastic levers. This difference in approach typified the different philosophies of the two companies, which was to end with one subsuming the other.

Another coach of note was the tinplate Restaurant Car that was available in three liveries. This was a significant model as it was the first to use plastic wheels, meaning it would be compatible with two-rail track. As such it was a harbinger of the doomed move to 2-rail.

New items appeared regularly up to 1957, culminating in the announcement of a new series of Super Detail wagons and coaches making more use of plastic construction. Even then, the coaches were to retain an element of tinplate, resulting in models that look lovely today, while being completely out of step with the tastes of the time. Locomotives including diesels with more detailed, plastic bodies were also announced. The wagon range in itself makes a worthy collecting goal; during this period Meccano chose a representative selection of the freight stock on the British Railways network of the day, including four wheeled open, closed, flat and tank wagons; brake vans from all regions, long wheelbase and bogie wagons.

TWO RAIL, OR NOT TWO RAIL, THAT IS THE QUESTION

Until 1958, Meccano had stuck with 3-rail, despite being fully aware of the encroaching 2-rail revolution. When toy trains were toys, realistic track was not a requirement; the main features of the track were that it should be strong (to be put together, trod on and pulled apart regularly) and reliable (so trains did not stall or derail). With its solid pressed tin base, Hornby-Dublo 3-rail track met these needs admirably. At this stage the Dublo system held a commanding lead over all its rivals. Tri-ang still only had a restricted range of fairly poor quality models, with most items being moulded in cellulose acetate. By comparison, the Dublo system

was long established, thoroughly modernised, and virtually complete in the important aspects of track system, loco power and full ranges of both rolling stock and lineside accessories.

Meccano may well have thought its lead was unassailable, but what it clearly should have thought about now from a position of strength was the 2/3-rail debate. Reviewing the contemporary model press, there was nothing but praise for Dublo's accurate scale locomotives, and generally only muted criticism of the tinprinted bodies and crude underframes. But every retailer was offering 2-rail conversions. It's clear that the simple introduction of plastic wheelsets, with 2-rail loco options at this stage could well have maintained Dublo sales against encroachment in the near future by Tri-ang and then Playcraft. Eventually, this is just what it was obliged to do.

In reality, many Dublo users would have been quite happy to continue with 3-rail. It was really only the scale modeller who led the 2-rail argument. Unfortunately, his bias against Dublo counted even more when Tri-ang started to introduce a wider range of locomotives all ready to run in 2-rail.

It's easy to criticise from the comfort of hindsight, but what happened when Meccano attempted to repair the breach makes for fascinating analysis. The decision to move to 2-rail was to prove catastrophic. From that moment, the company that had dominated the OO trains market for 20 years, and the constructional toy market for over 40 years, was about to be brought to its knees within a short five years. **CG**

By 1954 the need for a new locomotive was obvious. Meccano did not disappoint, coming up with one of the most iconic locos, both in real life and model form.

the GWR 4-6-0 'Bristol Castle' which, like the 2-6-4 tank, set a standard for diecast loco bodies that has never been bettered. Again the proportions were excellent, and the rivet detail gives the model a businesslike presence. It was met with

THE RANGE EXPANDS

The Dublo tinplate coach range was adequate, although not particularly extensive or inspiring. The aged Gresley coaches had received BR livery in 1953 but had only printed windows: in mid 1956 these were withdrawn

added 'play value'. Carrying a heavy solenoid motor within its tinplate body, and requiring electrical wiring and a special track section to operate, this was typical of Meccano's attention to detail. It was over engineered compared with Tri-ang's

Pedal power

Ann Evans meets Phil Collins, a man who holds the record for owning the most pedal cars.



ABOVE Transatlantic pedal car plane made by Tri-ang. Photographs by Rob Tysall.

ABOVE CENTRE Phil Collins enjoying the creative side of his hobby.

ABOVE LEFT A small part of the collection including a rare Volkswagon camper van. Made in Canada in the 1970s.

COLLECTORS' GAZETTE FACT SHEET

+ A BIT OF HISTORY

Although pedal cars were most popular between the 1920s and 1960s, the history of these impressive toys dates back to the late 19th century. As real cars started to appear on the roads, children wanted their own miniature versions. Most had a steel body with rubber tyres.

How many *Gazette* readers have childhood memories of pedalling a shiny car around their back gardens or along the pavement? Pedal cars have been around as long as motor cars – and even before them, as some lucky Victorian children would have had pedal horses and even pedal prams to play with back in the day.

Collector, Phil Collins knows all about pedal cars. He's the *Guinness Book of World Records* holder for his collection of individual pedal cars, with 440 pedal vehicles that date from the mid 1800s right up to present day. On top of that he also has motorised children's cars, totalling around 580 cars altogether plus dolls, prams, tinplate and

old wooden toys.

Up until the beginning of this year, former racehorse jockey, Phil had his amazing hoard of pedal cars on view in his museum in Northiam, East Sussex. However, a desire to spend more time with his family, and to travel, has now seen Phil close the museum to the public as he tries to find a buyer for his historic collection.

"I'm hoping to find someone who will buy the cars as a collection," said Phil. "I won't be selling them off individually because this collection could never be put back together again. But if a buyer doesn't come forward they'll be going back into storage, as they've been for many years."

The museum itself is a former flour mill, built by

Charles Bannister in 1910 as a gas operated flour mill originally using methane from their own cows. Over the years it's had many uses including being a restaurant. Phil obtained the building in 2009 and along with two friends set about turning it into a museum for his amazing collection of toys.

"Everything had to be measured and worked out before we could put anything in," said Phil. "It took us a year to build and put together."

It's difficult to know where to start to explore Phil's fantastic gathering of collectables, as there are eye catching, nostalgic old toys everywhere you look. Toys made by all the early toy manufacturers such as the Lines brothers who became Tri-ang; Leeway Toys (for girls

and boys) a part of the firm Patterson Edwards who had traded since 1892, the Leeway trade mark being registered in 1955; pedal cars made by French company Eureka and a host of others from different parts of the world.

Phil's collection isn't just pedal cars, he has pedal boats, pedal tractors, pedal buses, pedal trains, pedal scooters – all kinds of pedal powered toys and sitting alongside are non pedal vehicles driven by 5 hp engines or battery.

Prices for some of the cars for their time showed them to be real luxury toys. If you were lucky enough to have been given a Rolls Royce Cornish pedal car in 1935 it would have cost your parents £37 – a small fortune in those days.

Amongst Phil's collection

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ABOVE An unusual metal military vehicle made during the war.

BELOW Classic vintage pedal car.



ABOVE The ultimate in pedal cars – a Rolls Royce!

BELOW Toddler's first car. Made by Leeway in the 1930s.



ABOVE Wooden horse tricycle made in France late 1800s. Hand cranked, chain driven.

BELOW A corner of Phil's museum.



are J40 and Pathfinder pedal cars made at the Austin Junior Car Factory set up in 1949 by the Government on a not for profit basis providing employment for disabled coal miners. They were built just like the real thing with working headlights, Dunlop tyres, chrome bumpers and leather interiors. They were priced at the time £27 plus £6 purchase tax. The equivalent of three to four weeks' wages for the average man. In all 32,098 were produced, finally ceasing production in 1971.'

There were cheaper pedal cars on the market. You could buy a red Lotus sports car for around £3 but for an extra 2/6d you could have the additional extra of a push button to make it sound like a racing car. Another of Phil's displays had a military theme with pedal jeeps and armoured cars. Phil pointed out however, that the metal armoured car should never have been made. "In the war there was a shortage of metal, so for this vehicle

to be made for a child from metal was very unusual. It was obviously made on the orders of someone very high ranking."

Phil has been collecting for 35 years, and he told the Gazette how it all started. "It began after I was forced to take things easy after an accident and a nine month stay in hospital. I used to be involved with big cars and I

part of the 20th century. They eventually had their own saw mill, so were self sufficient. They went on to become Tri-ang, continually expanding and evolving until they became one of the largest toy manufacturers in the world."

After getting hooked and drawn in by the history of the pedal car, Phil bought his very first one 35 years ago, which was a 36 inch long E

know what's of value, so hang onto it."

Some of his pedal toys date back to the 1800s, such as an English straw-stuffed horse that worked by twisting its ears. Then there's a French horse and cart made between 1890-1910 that was steered by its reins and pedalled to drive it forward. There's an 1870 Rocket, hand propelled with a seat that moves forward and

in British Racing Green with pneumatic tyres. A Morris 1000 of which only 50 were made for showrooms. And a Renault Dion Bouton. Anyone buying one at the turn of the last century also got a child's version.

Phil's collection has come from all over the world, for example a rare pedal driven bubble car which he got from Peru; a camper van from Canada. He went to Belgium to buy one car – and came back with four! It was a fantastic experience to see such a host of wonderful old pedal cars, each one with its own story to tell. Phil says he hasn't a particular favourite as there's just too many to choose from, but for chugging around his farm he has a Model T Ford with a 5hp engine – not pedal driven, you might note! **CG**

Phil's collection isn't just pedal cars, he has pedal boats, pedal tractors, pedal buses, pedal trains, pedal scooters – all kinds of pedal powered toys.

was a jockey in the late '60s. Having to take it a bit easy I started looking at toy cars and got interested in their history.

"Toy cars have been around since the real thing, being made from wood to start with, then metal sheeting over the wood, leading to aluminium and steel. The Lines Brothers made pedal cars as well as other wooden toys in the early

type Jaguar. He gradually built up his collection from taking on cars that had been thrown out. He said: "The majority of stuff came from the dustbin man and the tip. People would just throw their toys out. But it's all changed in the last ten years. Since the TV programmes on antiques and collectables, people don't chuck things away. They

back like a rowing boat.

Other areas of his collection feature pedal cars that were made to compliment the real full sized car, whether for sale to the customer or for the showroom. Such as the 1928 Bugatti 35B made as a model before going into production for real. And the Bentley Super Charge 1934 made by Bentley as a promotional toy

Best of British Children's Clubs

Brian Howes turns back the clock to the days when kids were spoilt for choice when it came to joining a club, judging by the sheer amount of badges available.



When I was a kid it was cool to be in a club and even cooler to be in several different clubs. We pinned our club badges on our school blazer with pride and if you were the first kid to discover a hip new club to join, you were certainly the talk of the playground. Well, for an hour or so I suppose. Growing up was all so simple and innocent in those pre-computer, pre-smartphone days.

Back in the 1950s and 1960s there was no shortage of children's clubs to join. The Bridgnorth Stamp Club was always one of my favourites along with the Airfix Modellers Club and the Boy Scouts, which I suppose, you have to call a kind of club really.

My Saturday mornings were almost always spent at a children's cinema club of some sort or another where you were signed up to be an ABC Minor, a STAR Young Citizen, a GRANADA Grenadier or an Odeon National Club Kid, depending on who owned the local flicks. These cinema club badges were prolific and varied greatly in design, being made through many decades. They can easily be developed into a specialist area of collecting in their own right because there

are so many. Some of those issued by ABC and STAR cinemas in the 1950s had a luminous white area or circle on them that glowed in the dark – wow that was a real novelty back in those days!

Ice-cream, of course, has always been closely linked with the cinema and with kids in general, so there was no shortage of clubs for those of us who loved a lolly or cornet during the hot summer months. Wall's developed its Sky Ray Moon Fleet while the Lions Maid Galaxy

the ubiquitous Ovaltiney's – possibly the biggest children's club of them all, in its prime.

Some clubs were firmly aimed at road safety issues as Britain's roads became ever more hazardous during the post-war boom in car ownership. Remember those Tufty Club badges? Tufty was enlisted to lead children safely across Britain's roads as far back as 1961 and lasted well into the 1980s, by which time the Tufty Club had recruited almost 25,000 members. As a result these badges

Wrights Biscuits Mischief Club and Armitages Gussie Club. Clark's Shoes produced a splendid enamel badge in the shape of a horse-shoe to members of its Lucky Two-Shoe Club and a special fixing beneath the badge accommodated a hanging pair of shoes, although these are often missing. Bubble gum lovers who enjoyed the delights of Bazooka Joe's tasty offerings could send off a dozen or so gum wrappers to become a member of the Bazooka Joe Bubble Gum Club, and boy, was bubble gum



The value of many of these badges is rising steadily and they are proving to be a good investment as well as a fun thing to collect.



Patrol enlisted Astral Majors, Squadron Commanders and Air Zone Defenders to its ranks. Even small town ice-cream makers like Rossi's of Southend-on-Sea joined the ice cream space age revolution launching the Rossi's Space Club with a series of rocket-related lapel badges. By contrast, Meddocream Ltd linked up with the popular radio and TV show Educating Archie to launch its Archie Andrews Lollie Club. This attractive badge has become scarce over the years and remains much sought after by collectors. Other TV and radio-related clubs included the Tingha and Tucker Club, Famous Five Club and

will never be considered really scarce by collectors.

Advertising commercial products was the key aim of many children's clubs. Horlick's achieved this by launching its Spacemen's Club and sending out smart plastic spaceship badges to members, which are now highly desirable both to badge collectors and advertising enthusiasts alike. Huntley and Palmers recruited thousands of kids to its Iced Gem Detective Club, while Nestle assembled an army of would be cowboys and girls led by the one and only Milky Bar Kid. More obscure clubs included the

popular in the 1960s!

National and local newspapers were always aware of the benefits of running children's corners, clubs and circles. Among them were the Sunday Referee Shirley Temple League and the Daily Herald Bobby Bear Club, both of which issued lovely enamel badges, which are worth hunting for. Meanwhile, comics and clubs went hand-in-hand for decades with badges being issued to children by Judy, Lion, Bunty and Girls Crystal to name just a few.

Holiday camps were also keen to see the merits of Children's Clubs and badges can be found for



Advertising was firmly at the forefront of these children's clubs.

the delightfully named Warner's Wagtails, Pontins Coot Club, Squires Gate Junior Buccaneers and the Morecambe Bay 'Saints' and 'Sinners', among a host of others.

Mention should also be made of the various Ian Allan spotters clubs for those interested in trains and buses and, of course, the collectors clubs launched by many toy makers including Dinky, Corgi and Hornby, who all issued lapel badges to members.

As in any sphere of collecting there are many mystery items that appear from time to time and there are, not surprisingly, clubs about which little is known. These include the Little Woody Children's Club and the Happy Lion Clean Teeth Club. That's the fun about collecting children's club badges – you never know what interesting and obscure badges might turn up next and it's great fun doing the necessary research to learn about them.

The value of many of these badges is rising steadily and they are proving to be a good investment, as well as a fun thing to collect. Expect to pay anything from £3 for a common button and up to £50 for a scarce enamel. Generally speaking, the enamelled badges will command higher prices than button badges, however, a nice clean and rare pre-war button badge with a pictorial image will always give an enamel badge a run for its money. Happy hunting. **CG**



ABOVE These splendid colourful button badges were issued by Lyons Maid Ice Cream during the 1960s when space exploration was a popular subject among the younger generation.



ABOVE Rocket power: Wall's, Rossi's and Horlicks all turned towards space to market their products through clubs and badges.



ABOVE Gaumont, Star and Regal Cinemas all staged Saturday morning children's clubs.



ABOVE These five badges illustrate how national and daily newspapers caught on to the craze of launching children's clubs.



ABOVE Famous characters one and all. Archie Andrews, Tingha and Tucker and The Famous Five. There seemed to be a children's club to cater for all tastes. Nostalgia is a big part of collecting badges.



ABOVE A bit of a mystery? That's part of the fun of badge collecting... doing all the research.



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Under the spotlight

In this issue, **Alwyn Brice** gives top Marx to some lovely ladies.

If, like me, dear reader, you are of a certain age, then you'll know that back in the 1960s pocket money was hard come by, although quickly spent. For us males, it was all about making kits and playing with toy soldiers. Insofar as the latter were concerned, you had to eke out your funds, which was why most of us invested heavily in the products of Airfix. For a modest sum you'd get a whole box full of HO/OO scale soldiers to while away the hours.

Of course, there were diversions into Timpo and Charbens as well as Lone*Star and, maybe, Britains; after all, these were small and cheap enough to amass into armies. However, once you got beyond the 1/32 scale, things were very different. For starters, there was little out there and anything six or so inches tall was becoming worryingly like a doll. Moreover, bigger soldiers were more costly, so for those on a budget, the sums simply didn't add up.

Although that never stopped the marketing men at giant US toymaker Marx. As if detached from reality, Marx steadily built up a huge range of six-inch figures, encompassing everything from cavemen and ancient Egyptians and Romans through the middle ages, the Wild West and so on up to World War Two. These figures were terrific if you liked things large: the American child obviously did, and millions must have been sold there from the early 1960s onwards. Naturally, Marx also had an eye on the UK which was why the likes of Woolworth's (among other shops) also stocked these figurines, which were sold loose over the counter.

Small boys probably wouldn't have appreciated the fine sculpting that was a hallmark of this range but it has to be said, the poses were imaginative and the detail up there

with the best. But, in amongst all those warriors, Marx slipped something of an enigma: two sets of females.

Looking back at 1964 (the year in which these sets emerged) I really can't imagine my friends would have been the slightest bit interested in acquiring these miniature dolls, fashioned in soft pink (or cream) plastic. Why would they? After all, they didn't fit in with the rest of the warlike characters that we cherished. No, the 'Campus Cuties' range was a puzzle, perhaps having been designed for the females among us who wanted something similar to what the boys played with.

Viewed now, with the benefit of hindsight, the Campus Cuties range of 16 models was a real aberration. It is plain that these were no high school girls – or if they were, the sculptors had taken some liberties. The first set is quite easy to track down and features these sirens in a variety of dress and languorous poses. Two of my favourites are Lazy Afternoon (which comprises a girl with an oar, posing in a hooded top and brief shorts) and Nitey Nite, essentially a young lady in a baby doll nightdress. They are both beautifully executed and each oozes character.

The second set, also released in 1964, is much harder to track down: I can only assume that fewer of these were retailed. It's well worth the effort, though, because therein are two or three real gems, like Day at the Races (with a girl holding a pair of delicately modelled sunglasses) and Saturday Afternoon, which involves a lady in short slacks looking like she's ready to enjoy herself.

Strangely, the Campus Cuties don't seem to have liked travel very much, and you'll be lucky to sight any on these shores. Some were re-issued in the 1980s, which are usually in beige coloured plastic, so these are easy to spot. As for prices, the common examples can be had for a few pounds but expect to pay considerably more for those in the second series. **CG**



LEFT Series One - On the Beach and Lazy Afternoon: the swimming costume is lovingly sculpted and the cropped hair a delight.



RIGHT Series One - Shopping Anyone? and Nitey Nite. Baby dolls were all the rage in the 1960s...



LEFT Series Two - Bermuda Holiday and At the Races. The Marx Brothers had no connection with the latter (I believe).



RIGHT Series Two - Saturday Afternoon and Our Girl Friday. Crops again but differing heights and variations in dress make these girls stand out.

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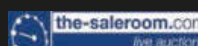


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- Tuesday 20th - TV Related & Star Wars Sale
- Wednesday 21st - The Frank Beech Toy Shop Sale
- Thursday 29th - Matchbox Sale
- Friday 30th - Matchbox Sale

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PRICE GUIDE

We round up a selection of Dinky Toys unlikely to break the bank to a range of diecast models inspired by stars of the small and big screen.



♦Dinky Supertoys No. 942 Foden 14-ton tanker 'Regent', second type cab, boxed, some playwear, box lightly creased, scuffed and stained. *Sold for £95, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Supertoys No. 902 Foden Flat Truck, second type cab, boxed, some paint chips and towing hook scratched. *Sold for £95, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Toys No. 903 Foden Flat Truck with Tailboard, second type cab, boxed, some playwear, paint chips, box creased, torn and scuffed. *Sold for £70, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Supertoys No. 934 Leyland Octopus Wagon, boxed, some playwear, paint chips, box lightly scuffed, torn and stained. *Sold for £70, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Toys pre-war No. 28h Delivery Van 'Sharp's Toffee Maidstone', some paint chips, scratch marks, lacking roof clip, front mudguards bent and rusting to radiator surround. *Sold for £460, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Supertoys No. 983 Car Carrier with 'Dinky Auto Service' Trailer, some paint chips, playwear and surface rust to draw bar. *Sold for £150, Toovey's, July.*



♦French Dinky Toys No. 25CG Citroen H Van 'C.H. Gervais', boxed, some paint chips, box creased and scuffed. *Sold for £55, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Supertoys No. 968 BBC TV Roving Eye Vehicle, in box with packing piece, some playwear, box lightly scuffed. *Sold for £90, Toovey's, July.*



♦Corgi Major Toys Gift Set No. 4 Bristol 'Bloodhound' Guided Missile Set, in box with two packing pieces, playwear, paint chips, missile tip perished, box lightly creased and scuffed. *Sold for £220, Toovey's, July.*



♦Dinky Toys No. 23a Racing Car, pre-war, without driver, playwear, paint chips, surface rust and one tyre missing! *Sold for £70, Toovey's, July.*



♦Matchbox Series G-4 Farm Gift Set box lightly scuffed and creased. *Sold for £260, Toovey's, July.*



♣ Corgi Toys No. 258 The Saint's Volvo P1800, excellent plus in a generally good plus box (does have a mark to end flap). **Sold for £70, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 261 James Bond Aston Martin DB5, taken from the film Goldfinger, with figures, overall condition is generally excellent, inner pictorial stand is excellent plus in a generally good plus to excellent box. **Sold for £180, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 266 Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, with figures, overall condition appears to be generally near mint, inner plastic and card display are generally excellent, box is fair. **Sold for £100, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 201 The Saint's Volvo P1800, Whizzwheels, near mint (some discolouration to windows) in a fair orange box. **Sold for £90, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 269 James Bond Lotus Esprit, taken from the film The Spy Who Loved Me, comes with missiles attached to sprue overall condition is generally mint. **Sold for £60, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 497 The Man from U.N.C.L.E. Thrushbuster, purple-blue body, complete with Waverley Ring, overall condition is generally near mint, inner pictorial stand is excellent, including outer box. **Sold for £140, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. GS40 The Avengers Gift Set, near mint John Steed's Vintage Bentley and excellent plus Emma Peel's Lotus Elan S2, card picture box is fair, missing pictorial stand and three umbrellas. **Sold for £120, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 805 The Hardy Boys Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost, complete with figures in dome, near mint in a generally excellent box, does have a couple of marks. **Sold for £100, Vectis, August.**



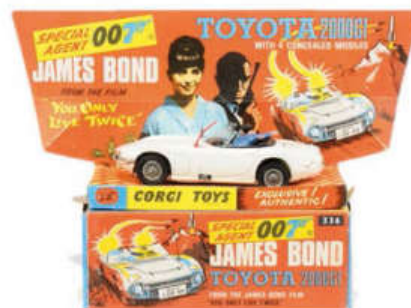
♣ Corgi Toys No. 391 James Bond Ford Mustang Mach 1, taken from the film Diamonds are Forever, near mint (usual small chips to front edges), in a generally good plus to excellent box with correct flash. **Sold for £110, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 267 Batman Batmobile, with figures, mint in an excellent plus box. **Sold for £150, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 268 The Green Hornet's Black Beauty, near mint, inner pictorial stand is excellent (small tear), in a generally good plus to excellent box. **Sold for £190, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 336 James Bond Toyota 2000GT, taken from the film You Only Live Twice, with figures, red plastic aerial is partly broken, otherwise generally excellent, box is excellent, including inner pictorial stand. **Sold for £110, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 277 The Monkees Monkeemobile, with four figures, near mint (usual chip to front edge), in a generally excellent window box (some small marks to front). **Sold for £100, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 270 James Bond Aston Martin DB5, with figures, overall condition is near mint in a near mint window box complete with sealed instruction pack. **Sold for £180, Vectis, August.**



♣ Corgi Toys No. 261 Spider-Man Spiderbuggy, complete with goblin in polythene bag, mint in a generally good plus to excellent box. **Sold for £70, Vectis, August.**

NEWS

IN-DEPTH

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145

James Bond's sleek Aston Martin DB5 had a top speed of 145mph.

53

Sean Connery was 53-years-old when he appeared in his last Bond film Never Say Never Again in 1983.

32

There were 32 episodes of The Adventures of Parsley broadcast from April 1970.

1936

The Green Hornet was created in 1936 and had his own radio show.

► **Dinky Toys No. 477 Parsley's Morris Oxford**, taken from The Adventures of Parsley, complete with figure, excellent plus, inner pictorial stand is excellent, box is good plus to excellent. **Sold for £50, Vectis, August.**



► **Corgi Toys No. GS22 James Bond Gift Set**, conditions appear to be generally near mint to mint, comes with missiles attached to sprue and bandit accessories in sealed bag. **Sold for £260, Vectis, August.**



► **Corgi Toys No. 649 James Bond Space Shuttle**, taken from the film Moonraker, overall condition appears to be generally mint, inner card display is mint. **Sold for £30, Vectis, August.**



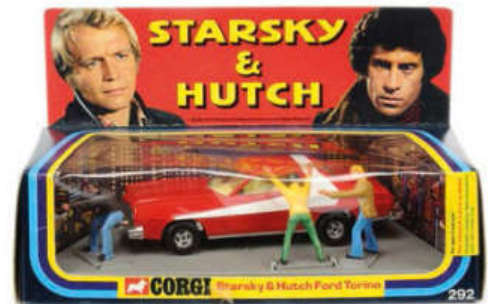
► **Corgi Toys No. 271 James Bond Aston Martin DB5**, 1/36 scale, generally mint in an excellent plus box with bandit figures in sealed bag. **Sold for £100, Vectis, August.**



► **Corgi Toys No. 342 The Professionals Ford Capri**, with three figures, mint including inner card display, box is excellent plus (slight creases to cellophane). **Sold for £60, Vectis, August.**



► **Corgi Toys No. 298 Magnum PI Ferrari 308GTS**, mint in a generally excellent window box with detachable header card. **Sold for £90, Vectis, July.**



► **Corgi Toys No. 292 Starsky and Hutch Ford Torino**, three figures, mint including inner plastic tray with card display. **Sold for £110, Vectis, August.**



► **Dinky Toys No. 100 Thunderbirds Lady Penelope's FAB1**, with figures, overall condition is good plus to excellent, inner pictorial stand is good, outer box is fair. **Sold for £120, Vectis, August.**



► **Dinky Toys No. 112 The New Avengers Purdey's Triumph TR7**, Speedwheels, mint in an excellent window box. **Sold for £40, Vectis, August.**



► **Corgi Toys No. 290 Kojak Buick Police Car**, with two figures, overall condition is generally near mint, inner card display is excellent plus. **Sold for £60, Vectis, August.**



► **Dinky Toys No. 358 Star Trek USS Enterprise**, overall condition is generally excellent plus (does have some very slight discolouration marks), in a generally good plus to excellent box. **Sold for £70, Vectis, August.**

► **Corgi Toys No. GS7 Daktari Gift Set**, complete with correct figures, overall condition is generally near mint in an excellent window box. **Sold for £100, Vectis, August.**





♣ Bassett-Lowke 12v DC blue 'Prince Charles' 4-4-0 no. 62078 with six wheel 'BR' tender, paint loss to front buffer beam, very good condition. *Sold for £260, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke black clockwork LNER 0-4-0 Standard Tank loco No. 88, fair to good condition. *Sold for £95, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke LNER 1931 series brake end coach No. 62362, minor marks to roof and some re-touching, sides excellent. Good condition, box fair. *Sold for £100, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke post-war 'blood & custard' first class BR coach, good, box good. *Sold for £95, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke Winteringham orange NE brake, van small chips to roof, good to very good. *Sold for £80, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke Winteringham LMS brake van, some re-touching to sides, good, box poor. *Sold for £80, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke Winteringham GW open wagon, very good to excellent, box good. *Sold for £50, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke Winteringham LMS cattle van, minor rust mark to one side, roof re-painted. Good, box good. *Sold for £80, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke wooden goods depot with sliding doors, including 11 tinplate advertising signs but missing the goods depot sign. Good condition. *Sold for £75, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bassett-Lowke 12v DC BR green 4-6-2 'Flying Scotsman' No. 60103, corrosion marks to top of boiler and cab roof with 'BR' eight wheel tender, crease on front and marks to side. Fair to good, box fair. *Sold for £400, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Bing maroon LMS clockwork 0-6-0 loco only No. 6508, crazing to body, good condition. *Sold for £140, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Hornby No. 4 Wembley Station, made 1940, buff building tin printed speckled platform, some scratches to platform and edge, with ramps, some chips to fencing. Good, box fair. *Sold for £80, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*



♣ Hornby for export dark green LNER clockwork 0-4-0 No. 0 locomotive 1938-41, '4797' on cabside revised body style, some small chips, with four wheel dark green SAR/SAS tender, small chips and touching in to inside. Good condition. *Sold for £220, Lacy, Scott & Knight, August.*

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From collectables of the future to old favourites, eBay always manages to produce some amazing finds... and even more amazing prices!



♣ **LEGO Star Wars Rebel Snowspeeder**, well LEGO seems popular at the moment and Star Wars is always sought after, so it should be no surprise to hear there was quite a bit of interest for this. **Sold for £980 (20 bids)**



♣ **Marx Toys Walt Disney 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea bagatelle**, based on the 1954 film, this brightly coloured game featured some absolutely stunning artwork. **Sold for £797 (29 bids)**



♣ **Dinky Toys No. 920 Guy Warrior Van 'Heinz'**, this was ex-shop stock from a large collection being sold due to ill health. The seller, who wasn't a collector, was very honest in his description. **Sold for £937 (13 bids)**



♣ **Tri-ang Spot-On No. 211 Austin Seven Mini**, finished in bright green, the seller rated this particular example 9.5/10, despite the fact it had "the odd nick/scuff". **Sold for £957.98 (20 bids)**



♣ **Matchbox Superfast No. 53a Ford Zodiac**, this was the "very rare metallic blue body" version of the Zodiac with thin five spoke wheels on a very near mint USA card. **Listed for £750 (Best Offer accepted)**



♣ **Britains/Herald Farm Series Counter Display Box**, made around 1961, this 'book style' display opened up to reveal around 90 figures all strung onto a green background. **£590 (one bid)**



♣ **Nintendo Game & Watch MC-25 Mickey Mouse**, so called 'collectables of the future' always do well on eBay, as demonstrated by this mint videogame featuring the famous mouse. **£552 (48 bids)**



♣ **Century 21 Joe 90 Sam Looover's Saloon Car**, although not as iconic as something from Thunderbirds or Stingray, Joe 90 inspired numerous toys and vehicles. **Sold for £525 (Buy it Now)**



♣ **Cecil Coleman Batman**, 'holy strings attached Batman!' Here's something a tad unusual, a Caped Crusader puppet from around the time of the live action show, complete with box. **Sold for £511 (six bids)**

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Foreign exchange

We let **Alwyn Brice** take his annual trip around the fleamarkets and fairs of France.

Blame me if you like, but after doing a degree in French and English, it's difficult to ignore that land mass across the English Channel. And so, for the big holiday of 2015, I found myself once again in the south, in the Ardeche, where the days are long, the sky is blue and the sun is wall-to-wall. Oh, and the Celsius gets up to 40 [Ed – no need to show off Alwyn, I saw the sun at least once during my week in Skegness].

The week-long antiques fair that is the highlight of the Barjac calendar suffered a bad day this year when the annual storm arrived; in consequence, traders upped and went, leaving their possessions wrapped up in a variety of plastic coverings. Fortunately for me, I'd popped by on the second day, so had been able to assess the toys. I have to say that there was little to excite this year but the weak Euro made things interesting for the foreigner. From marbles to mosaics, coffee grinders to cabinets and dolls clothes to deco, there was a real mixture.

Large scholastic posters are probably an acquired taste but there were many for sale for a few Euros each: depicting scenes of everyday life in a variety of environments, these would have been pinned to the schoolroom walls many decades back. Something else for the wall was a framed board that had a number of miniature lead pistols and rifles attached to it: dating from the 1950s, the items were well made and the seller was asking €50. Rather scarcer,



Soldiers massing for an attack!

according to the vendor, was a large cinema poster depicting the much-loved French comic Fernandel, who was struggling with a camel in the desert: it might have made a talking point at €250.

I was on more familiar ground with some aluminium figurines from the Quiralu stable. The moulds of these were taken for use by the British company Wend-Al and on the table in question I noted the familiar rocking horse and toy soldier (at €60), along with some cowboys and Indians on foot at €6.

Mounted figures came in at €20, and given the exchange rate, these weren't bad prices, although the paintwork was tired on the examples that I saw. Far more impressive (and something that I'd never seen before) was the Jouef Pan Americaine racing car game. This had serious overtones of the common Marx confection, since it featured sections of tinplate track that slotted together and came with a pair of tinplate and plastic clockwork cars. It was in very good condition, had the inner box insert and the all-

important key. Priced at €70, I think it would have sold without problem.

If you like things French, then you have to like quirky French transport, too. Quirkiest of all are the early Citroen 2CV cars with that curious ribbed bodywork, which was also employed on the Citroen H van. These (the real thing, that is) are quite collectable now, being an interesting alternative to the VW campervan. But back to the miniature world, and if you want the best, then it has to be the JRD large scale models that

came out just after the second world war. Sturdily made in metal, these would have been competitors for the likes of Tri-ang, one feels. The H van type came in several guises: there's a minibus, a police car and a tipper, for starters. The van itself can be found with different advertising logos, too. Offering opening doors and rear tailgate/upper section, these models are very well made and come with working steering as well as battery-operated front lights. Generally they are loose and packaging, one suspects,



Gigantic pair! The ship came apart and (the seller informed me) could be easily transported in a small van! The aeroplane was once an exhibit in a large department store where children could have their photograph taken whilst at the controls.



Perhaps the oddest thing seen at Barjac. This was a bar or café amusement machine, in effect a rifle range. It comprised two tinplate sections with a target at the far end. Sadly the rifle was missing but the vendor was expecting €350 for this novelty.



Fernandel may be unknown here but he was a very popular comic actor and singer in France during the middle of the last century.



Don't know if it sold but this OO gauge railway layout was enormous.



Tinplate Joustra army lorry contained a number of two-dimensional tinplate troops for added realism.



One of a number of school room educational posters spotted at the antiques fair.



LEFT This was the only Technofix toy to be seen at the show. It was in perfect condition although with a soft box: the seller wanted €60 for the Alpine Panorama set.

RIGHT Not quite Meccano... but Mecavion. Still quite sought after, if the price tag was anything to go by.

BELOW Lovely large scale Citroën H van in all its Gallic glory. This one sported Esso decals.



would have been fairly utilitarian. They aren't cheap, though: the examples I saw on two different stands went from €500 to €600. That said, they had tremendous presence and would have looked the bees' knees on your shelves!

Another large toy to catch my attention was that of the Joustra six-wheeled tinplate lorry that was towing a field

gun. This was tinplate at its best and from a quality French toy maker to boot. Predictably it wasn't cheap at €230 but it begged the question of where you might find another.

Ever heard of Mecavion? Without doubt an attempt to capitalise on Meccano and its (popular at the time) aircraft constructor range, this was a French take on the subject,

with a very similar name. The aircraft made were numerous (at least according to the catalogue in the box) and included float planes. Certainly of the 1930s, the result was a bit simpler than the more well-known company's output but was nonetheless interesting for that. Again, not common, a fact attested by the €230 price tag. ■



Pudding on a good show

Rob Burman heads to Bakewell for the TTC Toy Fair.

One of the main problems with toy fairs nowadays is that post-lunch lull. You know the feeling – particularly if you're a trader – you'll get the early morning rush and then after that the crowds disappear and you're left twiddling your thumbs. Once we infamously overheard a trader saying at one event that he could spend the afternoon running around the venue naked and no one would bat an eye lid. Luckily we weren't there to witness that 'spectacle'.

However, according to organiser Steve Howard that afternoon slump isn't always a problem for his enjoyable Bakewell fair, thanks to that all-important phrase 'location, location, location'. You see, the Bakewell show is held inside the Agricultural Centre, which just happens to be right next to one of the town's main car and coach parks, which ensures a steady flow throughout the day.

"You'll see them coming off the coach, then looking through the window and seeing a toy they remember. Then the next minute they're through the doors," Steve told us during the event.

Typically the Bakewell fair has up to 60 stalls, however attendance was slightly down in August but there was still plenty to catch the eye, including a small model railway layout and an attractive moving diorama based on a funfair, along with numerous traders selling model railways.

Something that definitely



It always pays to dig around in your cash box, which is where these were found.

caught our attention was a life-size replica of an Ewok from Star Wars Return of the Jedi. That's right, have you ever looked at your fireplace and thought 'this room needs a three foot furry space bear to really improve it'? It was being sold by Kevin, who

specialises in science fiction replicas. He's even had some famous customers, including Shane Richie who bought a 1/1 scale R2-D2 to put in his office... well, it takes all sorts. The price for this unusual piece of TV and film memorabilia was £400!



ABOVE This was certainly the star of show at Bakewell, a superb cardboard Matchbox layout that, despite missing its outer packaging, was in great condition. Some parts even popped up to create a 3D effect.

LEFT You're never quite sure what you'll find at a toy fair and it's safe to say we didn't expect to encounter a life-size Ewok replica in the heart of the Derbyshire Dales. It even dwarfed a large Darth Vader model.



An electric find was this Dinky Supertoys Ever Ready van in pretty decent nick.

Onto more familiar territory now with an attractive Dinky Supertoys No. 918 Guy Van 'Ever Ready' featuring the livery of this famous battery maker. Complete with its original box, which had some childish pencil scrawlings across the

front, the trader was asking £215 for it.

Meanwhile, here's some proof that when selling at these fairs, you should always check your cash box... and not just to see how much money you've made. Local trader Shaun, who's a regular at fairs in the Derbyshire area, was rummaging through his cashbox when he discovered a couple of Doctor Who badges from the Jon Pertwee era (1970 to 1974). One showed the Doctor's famous car Bessie, while the other featured the Doctor's assistant Jo Grant.

"I must have put these in the cashbox so I wouldn't lose them and then forgotten about them," explained Shaun. "I'm always finding little bits that I've tucked away. I'll probably get a couple of quid each for these."

Finally, also on Shaun's stall was something much bigger and far more scarce. The piece in question was a cardboard Matchbox Lesney R4 Racetrack Speedway layout. Matchbox produced a number of these charming and colourful layouts based on a construction site, the streets of London, a farm and a Grand Prix. Each came in a special paper sleeve to protect the contents. According to Ramsay's 15th, the most valuable of the lot is the R5 Grand Prix Race Track Layout, with an estimate of £100 to £125. Unfortunately Shaun was missing the sleeve for his example, which brought the price down to a more reasonable £40. Let's hope it sped away at that price. ■

NEWS

IN-DEPTH

PRICE
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HOBBYCOLLECTORS
GAZETTE

EVENT GUIDE

FAIRS

19 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Beaconsfield**, Peter Levinson, 0208 205 1518
- **Monmouth**, Chris Dyer Fairs, 01643 702757 or 07966 694579
- **Nottingham**, Malcolm Townsend, 07951 072790

20 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Bristol**, Bulldog Fairs, 01373 452857
- **Eastbourne**, Robert Horsecraft, 01323 899879
- **Kidderminster**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773
- **Leeds (Pudsey)**, Steel Promotions, 0161 283 1255
- **Bolton**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688
- **Newton Abbot**, Ray Heard, 01823 480097
- **Norwich**, J & D Toyfairs, 07881 555283 or 01953 861348

26 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Slough**, Maidenhead Static Model Club, 07825 564960
- **Slough**, John Garside, 07825 564960
- **Stoke-on-Trent**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773

27 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Barry**, Chris Dyer Fairs, 01643 702757 or 07966 694579
- **Birmingham (NEC)**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688
- **Carlisle**, Jim Corr, 07504 035955
- **Crawley**, David Parsons, 07742 609865 or 01424 846676
- **Enfield**, Whitewebbs Museum, 0208 367 1898
- **Herne Bay**, Kent, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012

29 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Garstang**, Janet Pearson, 01282 439009
- **Tonbridge**, Kent, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012

3 OCTOBER 15

- **Chester**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773
- **Maidstone**, Maidstone Vintage Toyfair, 01622 298159
- **Plymouth**, Events Frontier, www.eventsfrontier.com

4 OCTOBER 15

- **Biggleswade**, Peter Levinson, 0208 205 1518
- **Chelmsford**, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012
- **Dublin**, Brian Collins, 0879 827 712
- **Falkirk**, McLaren Models, 01324 624102
- **Galgate**, Brian Tattersall, 07779 875786
- **Kempton Park Racecourse**, RM Toys 023 9238 1529
- **Kirkby-in-Ashfield**, Malcolm Townsend, 07951 072790
- **Plymouth**, Events Frontier, www.eventsfrontier.com
- **Spalding**, Model Tractor 2014, Colin Boor, 07710 321471
- **Stafford Showground**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688

7 OCTOBER 15

- **South Croydon**, Joe Lock, 07866 641215

10 OCTOBER 15

- **Cardiff**, Chris Dyer Fairs, 01643 702757 or 07966 694579
- **Crewe**, Crewe Model Engineering Society, 01270 760149 or 01270 505781
- **Hawkinge**, Kent, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012

11 OCTOBER 15

- **Ashington**, Simon Phillips, 07727 023893
- **Carmarthen**, Chris Dyer Fairs, 01643 702757 or 07966 694579
- **Donington Park**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688
- **Ipswich**, J & D Toyfairs, 07881 555283 or 01953 861348
- **Needham Market**, Stowmarket Railway Club, 01449 771360
- **Rayleigh**, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012
- **Shepton Mallet**, Bulldog Fairs, 01373 452857

13 OCTOBER 15

- **Heywood**, Wheelbase Fairs Ltd, 01246 767876 or 07751 613640

14 OCTOBER 15

- **Hoddesdon**, Joe Lock, 07866 641215

16 OCTOBER 15

- **Alfreton**, Malcolm Townsend, 07951 072790

17 OCTOBER 15

- **Colchester**, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012
- **Gateshead**, Jim Corr, 07504 035955
- **Oswestry**, Chris Dyer Fairs, 01643 702757 or 07966 694579

18 OCTOBER 15

- **Doncaster Racecourse**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688
- **Huntingdon**, J&J Fairs Ltd, 01522 880383
- **Wincanton Racecourse**, Toytrac, 01264 361307
- **Worthing**, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012

20 OCTOBER 15

- **Elsecar**, Wheelbase Fairs Ltd, 01246 767876 or 07751 613640

21 OCTOBER 15

- **Burton-upon-Trent**, Malcolm Townsend, 07951 072790

24 OCTOBER 15

- **Brentwood**, J&J Fairs Ltd, 01522 880383
- **Cardiff**, Showmasters, 01908 671138

25 OCTOBER 15

- **Cardiff**, Showmasters, 01908 671138
- **Coventry**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688
- **Lincolnshire**, J&J Fairs Ltd, 01522 880383
- **Orpington**, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012
- **Poole**, David Rees, 01202 590158 or 01202 600121
- **Reading**, Tony Oakes, 01270 652773
- **Seaford**, Robert Horsecraft, 01323 899879

27 OCTOBER 15

- **Garstang**, Janet Pearson, 01282 439009

29 OCTOBER 15

- **Theydon Bois**, Joe Lock, 07866 641215

31 OCTOBER 15

- **Belfast**, Showmasters, 01908 671138
- **Exeter**, Events Frontier, www.eventsfrontier.com
- **Leeds**, Barry Rennison, 0113 236 3695

1 NOVEMBER 15

- **Belfast**, Showmasters, 01908 671138
- **Chipping Norton**, Don Davidson, 01608 641870
- **Exeter**, Bulldog Fairs, 01373 452857
- **Exeter**, Events Frontier, www.eventsfrontier.com
- **Falkirk**, McLaren Models, 01324 624102
- **Holt**, J & D Toyfairs, 07881 555283 or 01953 861348
- **Bolton**, Barry Potter Fairs, 01604 846688
- **Potters Bar**, Peter Levinson, 0208 205 1518
- **Rayleigh**, SRP Toyfairs, 07739 998012

AUCTIONS

19 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Rugby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

23 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Shrewsbury**, Halls Fine Art, 01743 450700

24 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Sheffield**, Sheffield Auction Gallery, 0114 281 6161

26 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Holbeach**, IGP Limited, 01406 424681

29 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

30 SEPTEMBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

7 OCTOBER 15

- **Royal Tunbridge Wells**, C & T Auctioneers, 01634 292042

9 OCTOBER 15

- **Malvern**, John Goodwin, 01684 593125

12 OCTOBER 15

- **Internet Auction**, Trains, Planes & Automobiles, +61 (0) 2 4787 7974

14 OCTOBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

15 OCTOBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

16 OCTOBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

20 OCTOBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

21 OCTOBER 15

- **Royal Tunbridge Wells**, C & T Auctioneers, 01634 292042
- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

24 OCTOBER 15

- **Bristol**, East Bristol Auctions, 0117 9671000
- **Thirsk**, Michael Harrison, 01845 523165

29 OCTOBER 15

- **Thornaby**, Vectis, 01642 750616

CARLISLE
MODEL TRANSPORT
TOY FAIR

A chance to buy, swap or sell trains, diecast, soldiers, Sci-Fi, Lego etc

Borderway Exhibition Hall, Rosehill, CA1 2RS (J43 of M6)

Sunday 27th September

Doors open: 10.30am - 3pm Adults: £2.50
Children under 10yrs: 50p

Working Exhibits • Excellent cafe facilities
• Free car parking

Jim Corr on 07504 035955
Email: jim_corr73@hotmail.co.uk
www.carlisletoyfair.com

Train & Model Collectors' Fair
Needham Market Community Centre,
School Street, Needham Market, Suffolk IP6 8BB

Sunday 11 October 10.30am-3pm

Admission £1.50, accompanied children free
Wheelchair access, free parking, refreshments
Organised by Stowmarket Railway Club

For further information call 01449 672698
www.stowrailclub.org.uk

SHOWMASTERS

24 - 25 OCTOBER 2015

FILM & COMIC CON

MOTORPOINT ARENA CARDIFF

EVENT OPEN 9AM - 6PM. EARLY ENTRY £15, STANDARD ENTRY £4 CHILD, £8 ADULTS

MEET THESE GUESTS...AND MORE!**RICHARD
BRAKE**

GAME OF THRONES

**RENE
AUBERJONIS**

STAR TREK, WAREHOUSE 13

**KEN
COLLEY**

STAR WARS

**JOE
FLANIGAN**

STARGATE ATLANTIS

**RICHARD
HARMON**

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**ANGELA
BRUCE**

DOCTOR WHO

**BRENOCK
O'CONNOR**

GAME OF THRONES



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31 OCTOBER - 1 NOVEMBER 2015

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BAKER**

DOCTOR WHO

**JOE
FLANIGAN**

STARGATE ATLANTIS

**NICOLA
BRYANT**

DOCTOR WHO

**RENE
AUBERJONIS**

STAR TREK, WAREHOUSE 13

**LOUISE
JAMESON**

DOCTOR WHO

**KATY
MANNING**

DOCTOR WHO

**RICHARD
FRANKLIN**

DOCTOR WHO

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AUCTION
TALKS & MORE!**WWW.BELFASTFILMANDCOMICCON.COM**Guests are charging for autographs. Not all guests signing on all days and are subject to work commitments. Check website for more info and terms / conditions.

SOUTH CROYDON

Wednesday 7th Oct 6.30pm - 8.30pm

St John's Community Hall, Upper Selsdon Road,
Selsdon, South Croydon, CR2 8DD
Admission: £1

HODDESDON

Wednesday 14th October 7pm - 9pm

Sheredes School, Cock Lane,
Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire EN11 8JY
Admission: £1

THEYDON BOIS

Thursday 29th October 7pm - 9pm

Theydon Bois Village Hall, Coppice Row,
Theydon Bois, Nr Epping, Essex CM16 7ER
Admission: £1

For more details please call:
07866 641215

GALGATE TOY & TRAIN FAIR

SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER

10.30am - 3.00pm

Ellal Village Hall, Main Road,
Galgate, Lancaster LA2 0LQ

ADMISSION ONLY £1.50

BRIAN TATTERSALL 07779 875786

CRAWLEY TOY & TRAIN COLLECTORS FAIR

The Bewbush Centre, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 8XW

Sunday 27th September

Open: 10am to 2pm • Free Parking

Admission: £2.00 from 10 am, early birds welcome

All enquiries: Dave 07742 609865 or Pete 01424 846676
• www.modelcarmart.com/crawley
• Email: modelcarmart@gmail.com

GARSTANG

Tuesday 27th October

From 6.30pm

Future date: 24th November
KIRKLAND AND CATTERALL MEMORIAL

HALL, PR3 OHR Corner A6 and A586

Tel: 01282 439009

CREWE TOY AND TRAIN COLLECTOR'S FAIR

Victoria Oakley Centre, West Street, Crewe CW1 2PZ

TRAINS, DINKIES, TINPLATES, MECCANO, RAILWAYANA

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2015

10.30a.m. - 4.00p.m. 6ft Table for £18

Bookings: Crewe Model Engineering Society, 93 Merlin Way,
Crewe, CW1 3YP Tel: 01270 505781 or 01270 760149
before 8 p.m. (Not Saturdays or Sundays)

TOY & TRAIN FAIR



BIGGLESWADE

**Sunday
4th October**

Weatherley Centre,
Eagle Farm Road SG18 8JH
(Corner of Jack Bygraves Motors)
2 miles Homebase Roundabout A1 (A6001)

10.30am - 3.00pm

For more details please call Peter or Diane

020 8205 1518

CHRIS DYER FAIRS

TOY & TRAIN FAIRS FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BARRY

Sunday 27th September

10.30am-3pm

Barry Leisure Centre, Greenwood Street,
Barry, Nr Cardiff CF63 4RU

(Admission £1.95/Child or OAP £1.50)

85
TABLES

CARDIFF

Saturday 10th October

10.30am-3pm

Penarth Leisure Centre,
Andrew Road, Cogan, Cardiff CF64 2NS

(Admission £1.95/Child or OAP £1.50)

120
TABLES

CARMARTHEN

Sunday 11th October

10.30am-3pm

Carmarthen Leisure Centre, Llansteffan Road,
Johnstown, SA31 3NQ

(Admission £1.95/Child or OAP £1.50)

80
TABLES

OSWESTRY

Saturday 17th October

10.30am-3pm

The Pavilion, Oswestry Showground,
Park Hall, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 4AS

(Admission £1.95/Child or OAP £1.50)

80
TABLES

Tel: 01643 702757 / 07966 694579 www.chrisdyerfairs.com

Collectables Toy Fair

Presented by Brian Collins Enterprises

Collinstown Suite, The Carlton Hotel Dublin Airport,
Old Airport Road, Cloghran, Co. Dublin

**Sunday 4th October 2015
Sunday 29th November 2015**

All enquiries welcome to **00353 87 9827712**. Small admission charge
will apply to gain entry. Follow Brian Collins Enterprises on Facebook or go
to www.briancollinsenterprises.ie for more information.

SRP TOYFAIRS

NEW
EVENT

MIDHURST, W. SUSSEX
SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER

THE GRANGE, BEPTON ROAD, MIDHURST, WEST SUSSEX 10am - 2pm.

HERNE BAY, KENT
SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

KINGS HALL, THE BEACON HALL, HERNE BAY, KENT CT6 6BA. 10am - 2pm

TONBRIDGE, KENT

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER (Evening Fair)

THE ANGEL CENTRE, ANGEL LANE, TN9 1SF. 6.30pm - 8.30pm.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER

CHELMSFORD CITY FOOTBALL CLUB, SALERNO WAY, CM1 2EH 10am - 2pm.

HAWKINGE, KENT

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER

HAWKINGE COMMUNITY CENTRE, HERON FORSTAL AVENUE, CT18 7FT 10am - 2pm.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER (Next event: 1st November)

SWYNE PARK SCHOOL, RAYLEIGH, ESSEX SS6 9BZ. 10am - 2pm.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER

MARK TEY HALL, MARK TEY, COLCHESTER, CO6 1EN 10am - 2pm.

WORTHING, W. SUSSEX

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER

CHARMANDEAN CENTRE, FOREST ROAD, WORTHING 10am - 2pm.

ORPINGTON, KENT

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER

CROFTON HALLS, ORPINGTON, KENT, BR6 8PR. 10am - 2pm.

srptoys1@hotmail.co.uk www.srptoyfairs1.co.uk

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: PAULA AND GERRY ON 07739 998012



www.j-jwebbtoyfairs.com

01522 880383

HUNTINGDON SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Int. Indoor Arena, Kings Bush Centre, Wood Green Animal Shelters, London Rd, Godmanchester
PE29 2NH. 10am - 2.30pm >> 230 tables >> 6ft table £29 >> Ad £3, Sen £2.50, 1st Ch £2

BRENTWOOD SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER

International Hall, Brentwood Centre, Doddington Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9NN
10am - 2.30pm >> 200 tables >> 6ft table £30 >> Ad £3, Sen £2.50, 1st Ch £2

LINCOLNSHIRE SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER

The Exhibition Centre, Lincolnshire Showground, Lincoln, LN2 2NA
10am - 2.30pm >> 200 tables >> 6ft table £29 >> Ad £2.50, Sen £2, 1st Ch £1.50

SPALDING SUNDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

Springfields Exhibition Centre, Camelgate, Spalding, Lincs PE12 6ET
10am - 2.30pm >> 150 tables >> 6ft table £28 >> Ad £2.50, Sen £2, 1st Ch £1.50

YORK RACECOURSE SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER

The Knivesmire Stand, York Racecourse, York YO23 1EX
10am - 2.30pm >> 100 tables >> 6ft table £28 >> Ad £2.50, Sen £2, 1st Ch £1.50

EAST MIDLANDS - NEW YEARS DAY FRIDAY 1ST JANUARY 2016

Newark & Notts Showground, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG24 2NY
10am - 3pm >> 300 tables >> 6ft table £35 >> Ad £3.50, Sen £3, 1st Ch £2.50

For bookings and further information
please telephone Lorraine on

01522 880383

New email: jandjfairs@virginmedia.com

R. M. Toys Ltd
Are Proud To Announce

London's No 1 Sunday Toy Collectors Fair

KEMPTON PARK TOY FAIR

At: Kempton Park Racecourse, Staines Road East
Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex TW16 5AQ. M3 Jct 1 onto A308

ON

SUNDAY 4th October 2015

10.30am - 3.00pm

Adults - £4.00 OAPs - £3.50 Children - £1.00
Early Entry Buyers - £10.00 (8.30am onwards)

Approx 200 tables of toy and model dealers, buying, selling and part exchanging a wide variety of collectables including Model Railways, Models Cars and Buses, Scalextric, Dolls and Teddy Bears, White Metal, Aircraft, Display Cabinets, Memorabilia and much much more

For information and booking details please contact
Russell Martin on 023 9238 1529 or 07957 823507

Future date: 6th December

HEYWOOD

TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 7-9PM

Civic Centre, 3 Church Street, Heywood, Lancs OL10 1LW

Easy to find from M62. Take A6046 Heywood/Middleton exit approx 2 miles on left. Admission £1.50, Concessions/children £1 Early entry 4.30pm - £4

ELSECAR

TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER 7-9PM

Milton Hall, Fitzwilliam Street, Elsecar, Barnsley, S74 8EZ

(opposite Heritage Centre). Parking 150yds off Wentworth Street. Admission £1.50, Concessions/children £1 Early entry 4.30pm - £4

Great fairs to visit with a friendly atmosphere. Refreshments available.

• Tel: Brian 01246 767876 or 07751 613640 • wheelbasefairs@virginmedia.com

ASHINGTON

TOY & TRAIN COLLECTORS FAIR

Ashington Community Centre, Foster Lane, Ashington
(Just off the A24) West Sussex, RH20 3PG

Sunday 11th October

10am-2pm

For further information contact Simon on 07727 023893
For a wide range of collectables please visit www.modelcarmart.co.uk

SEAFORD

Sunday 25th October

Toy & Antique Collectors Fair

Downs Leisure Centre, Sutton Road, Seaford, East
Sussex BN25 4QW (on A259) 10am - 2.30pm

Admission £1.40 • Under 12s Free

01323 899879 or 01424 846676

East Anglia's Premier Toy Fairs

J&D Toy & Train Fairs Sunday 11th October

THE CAMEO HOTEL, Old London Road, Copdock, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3JD
10.30am - 2.30pm. Tables £25 Public admission: £2.50, Children: Free

For more details please contact John Parsonage 07881 555283
or Dennis Payne 01953 861348

TOY & TRAIN COLLECTORS FAIRS

FREE
PARKING

KIDDERMINSTER

Admission
£1.50

SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 10.30am - 2pm

Gilt Edge Leisure Centre, Zortech Avenue, Kidderminster DY11 7DY

FREE
PARKING

STOKE ON TRENT

Admission
£1.00

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 10.30am - 2pm

Fenton Community Centre, Manor Street, Fenton, ST4 2PT

CHESTER

**"The Collectors'
Favourite"**

150
TABLES

Admission
£2.50

**SATURDAY
3RD OCTOBER**

10am - 3pm

Northgate Arena, Victoria Road,
Chester, CH2 2AU



READING

RIVERMEAD

LEISURE CENTRE

Richfield Avenue, RG1 8EQ

(DATELINE 1995 - PLUS VINTAGE STYLE MODELS)

Sunday 25th October

10.30am to 3.00pm

- Up to 170 tables selling vintage toys and collectables
- Train layouts and other displays
- Ample parking - superb facilities • Refreshments

Admission: Adults £3.50 Accompanied children FREE



Major UK and overseas dealers and collectors in attendance
A MUST for all serious collectors and enthusiasts of dateline toys

For details contact Tony Oakes Fairs Tel: 01270 652773, mobile 07825 631323

Maidstone

TO THE BEST VINTAGE TOY SHOW IN KENT

MAIDSTONE VINTAGE TOY FAIR

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2015

Lockmeadow Market Hall & Leisure Complex, Barker Road, Hart Street Entrance, Maidstone

9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Admission: £2.00

5 MINS WALK FROM TOWN CENTRE. MAIDSTONE WEST & EAST RAILWAY STATIONS, PARK AND RIDE SERVICE STOPS NEARBY. CLOSE TO MOTORWAYS M20 AND M2. LARGE ON-SITE CAR PARK (P&D). ALL DAY REFRESHMENTS

PLENTY TO SEE ALL DAY

-TOYS, TRAINS, DOLLS, TEDDY BEARS, MODELS & MORE. FURTHER INFORMATION

TEL: (01622) 298159 (01732) 840787



RAY HEARD TRAIN & TOY FAIRS

NEWTON ABBOT SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

Newton Abbot Racecourse, Devon, TQ12 3AF (follow the brown racecourse signs)

- Admission: £2
- Times: 10am to 3.30pm
- Free car parking
- Refreshments available
- 160 tables
- 60+ traders

For more information please contact Ray Heard on **01823 480097**

TOYTRAC 2015

Sunday 18th October at Wincanton Racecourse

for information visit: www.toytrac.co.uk

or phone Warner & Sue on **01264 361307**

THIRSK AUCTION MART - Specialist Auction Sale of DIECAST REPLICAS MODEL VEHICLES

SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2015

To be held at: The Auction Mart, Thirsk Rural Business Centre, Blakey Lane, Thirsk, YO7 3AB

By Matchbox, Corgi, Lledo & Gilbow & Others

A good range of Model cars, commercial vehicles & PSV's

ALL IN ORIGINAL BOXES AND IN MINT CONDITION

FURTHER ENTRIES INVITED

Sale to commence at 11am

Viewing Friday 23rd October from 2pm – 4pm & morning of sale from 8am

Catalogues available on line from Friday 16th October 2015

Tel: **01845 523165** or **07730 765569** (Michael Harrison)

Email: michael@thirskmarket.co.uk • www.thirskmarket.co.uk

Model Tractor and Construction 2015

Autumn Show - Sunday 4th October 10am until 3pm

Springfields Exhibition Centre Spalding, Lincolnshire. PE12 6ET

Farm toy collectors fair for model tractor enthusiasts

Books, Videos, Leaflets, Brochures and Vintage Tractor Supplies

Vintage and Classic Tractor display

Diorama Competition – Cash Prizes

SHOW MODEL AVAILABLE ON THE DAY

Entry: £5, accompanied children Free

www.spaldingmodeltractor.com

colinboor@btconnect.com

07710 321471



VENUE THE ISLINGTON BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE

NEW DATE SATURDAY 2ND APRIL 2016

Guideline Publications

www.guidelinepublications.com

PRESENTS

THE TOY SOLDIER SHOW LONDON

THE LARGEST SHOW IN EUROPE

THE NEXT SHOW DATES

Saturday 5th December 2015

NEW DATE SATURDAY 2ND APRIL 2016

Saturday 4th June 2016

EARLY BIRD

Entry 9.30am - 10.30am £10.00

General Admission

10.30am - 4.00pm £6.00

£5.00* for all pre paid tickets

Children under 14 - FREE

BOOKING, ENQUIRIES & INFORMATION

Tel: +44 (0) 1908 274433

Fax: +44 (0) 1908 270614

www.toysoldiercollector.com

e: stella@regallitho.co.uk

Join us at the Islington Business Design Centre, a purpose-built, modern exhibition centre where all traders will be under one roof.

The largest London Toy Soldier Show in Europe with over 200 trader tables with products to meet your every needs, presented by the Guidelines team. A must for all traders, collectors and figure painters.

The Islington Business Design Centre 52 Upper Street, London N1 0QH

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WE'RE AS SERIOUS ABOUT COLLECTING AS YOU ARE

5 - 10 minutes walk from the Angel, Kings Cross, Euston, Highbury & Islington stations with 4 bus stops nearby





BULLDOG FAIRS

Bristol Toy & Train Fair

Sunday 20th September 10.30-3pm

Abbeywood Community School, New Road, Stoke Gifford. BRISTOL. BS34 8SF

Admission: £2.50. Early Bird from 08.30 £5.00 each

Upto 80 Stalls. Children under 16 free with paying adult

Free parking & Light refreshments



Shepton Mallet Toy Collectors Fair

Sunday 11th October 10.30-3pm

Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet BA4 6QN

Admission: £3.50. Early Bird from 08.30 £10.00 each

Upto 300 Stalls. Children under 16 free with paying adult

Free parking for 1000's of cars. Restaurant now open.



Exeter Toy & Train Fair

Sunday 1st November 2015 10.30-3pm

Westpoint Arena, Clyst St Mary, EXETER. EX5 1DJ

Admission: £3.50. Early Bird from 08.30 £10.00 each

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Obsolete

Our monthly gaze into the weird but wonderful world of collector/dealer **Obsolete Oz**. Buying and selling since the 1970s, Oz has developed a great knack for unearthing some amazing finds from flea markets, antique fairs, car boot sales, rubbish skips and even the local tip.

Hi folks, collecting can be like waiting for buses sometimes. You wait ages for one and then two come along together! Last month I bagged not one but two Matchbox No. 8a Crawler Tractors, paying £81 for the pair. A mate had asked me to look out for one in orange ages ago and these are difficult to find but luckily I snapped one up at a swapmeet for what I thought was a reasonable £45 mint/boxed. Then, low and behold, a few days later I stumbled on a yellow version and bagged this for just £36 before adding it to my own

that be at Lesney simply removed the blade from the K3 bulldozer and slapped it in the Gift Set. Lesney had a very close working relationship with Laing, which had its head office in North London. Laing built two of Lesney's factories for them so I suppose when it came to dropping a bit of advertising on a model or two for Laing, Lesney duly obliged. The Scammell Constructor Tractor Unit was the first Matchbox King Size model to sport plastic windows and, in my opinion, was one of the best construction vehicle sets Lesney ever produced. It was

beauties for a quid a-piece because these figures are as rare as hen's teeth because they easily come loose from their respective models during play.

Another rare find came courtesy of my good mate Skip Rat, who fished an old enamel advertising sign from a rubbish skip down at the tip. Dalgleish & Sons manufactured mineral waters, one of which was Horehound Beer – something I'd never heard of before in my life. Wonder what that tasted like? If anyone out there can remember this beer then please get in touch, I'm always interested to hear

pay my £25 asking price and a really scarce Fry's Cocoa ruler measured up at £65. It was a small twelve-inch tinplate folding ruler, with adverts on each of its four sections – a lovely thing that I thought about keeping for myself... but I had to resist the temptation!

On the plastic front an Airfix 15 Ton Diesel Locomotive Crane Construction Kit in super condition sold for £30 to a keen kit collector. It was in a nice clean and crisp box with all the pieces still fixed to the sprues, which makes it easy for buyers to check if there are any bits missing. I remember building this kit as a kid and using it on my model railway for many happy years.

Still on the subject of plastic a Fundin League star badge soon found a buyer for £20. Speedway stuff always sells well and I didn't expect this one to hang around for long. Ove Fundin was a fabulous rider in his day, winning the World Speedway Championship no less than five times between 1956 and 1967. Incredible!

Last but not least a couple of hollowcast lead animal figures that I think were made by Pixieland Kew sold for a tenner a piece. These toys were really well painted and both had survived in super condition.

Well that's about all for another month folks. The days are slowly beginning to get shorter as autumn draws near so enjoy what's left of summer and, as always, be lucky! **CG**

Another rare find came courtesy of my good mate Skip Rat, who fished an old enamel advertising sign from a rubbish skip down at the tip.

collection. The scarce early versions of this crawler had the wheels sprayed all over yellow and a pale yellow version is also known to exist but is very rare. This was the first of the 1-75 range to appear without the MOKO script logo on the box sides.

Talking of Matchbox Crawler Tractors, another excellent purchase was made at a local collectors market where I instantly recognised a Caterpillar D9, priced at a tenner, that had gone astray from the King-Size K8 Laing Scammell Transporter set. This was a clever way of finding a suitable load for the low loader as the powers

quite expensive though and you were lucky if you got a new one in the area where I lived as a kid!

Still on the subject of Lesney, I dropped really lucky on two diecast figures that were lying at the bottom of a box of bits and bobs – a bit of a toy scrapyard, I suppose. Every item in the box was priced at a pound each and I immediately recognised two drivers were from rare diecast models. One was from the MOKO Excavator and the other from the Lesney large-scale Caterpillar Tractor or Bulldozer. I couldn't believe my luck bagging these little

your stories.

My best find of the month was undoubtedly a small Mackintosh's toffee tin shaped as a Noah's Ark, with folding platform ends, that I snapped up from a fleamarket for £30. This super little tin dates from the 1930s and is in great nick for its age. There should be a tidy profit in this little beauty when it sells as this type of tin is highly prized by collectors.

It's been a really busy time on the selling front with no shortage of buyers for scarce collectables. A neat pocket mirror advertising Bluebell Metal Polish soon found a new owner willing to

NEWS

IN-DEPTH

PRICE
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HOBBY

This Mackintosh's toffee Noah's Ark toffee tin was Oz's best buy of the month – bagged for just £30 from a fleamarket.



excellent nick and sold for a tenner a piece.



These two Lesney/Moko figures were fished out from a box of scrap for a mere £1 each... Oz knows how to bag a bargain!



Two of a kind! These Matchbox No. 8a Crawlers turned up within days of each other. Oz kept one for himself and sold the rare orange version to a pal.



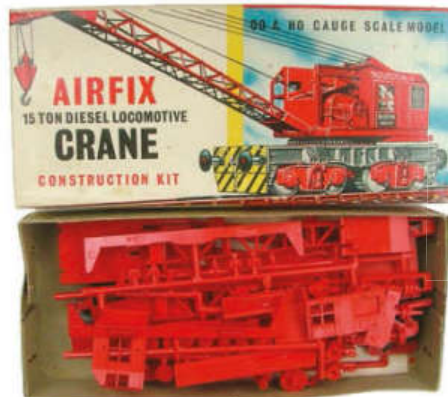
ABOVE Oz soon recognised this Cat D9 as being from the Matchbox King Size Gift Set and snapped it up for a tenner.



ABOVE Skip Rat rescued this old enamel sign from the tip, but what was Horehound Beer, asks Oz?



Sold to a speedway buff for twenty quid, this Ove Fundin plastic star badge is rare and desirable.



ABOVE In wonderful condition with all parts present, this Airfix railway crane unsurprisingly sold for £30 to a kit collector.



This rare Fry's Cocoa tinplate folding ruler soon found a buyer willing to hand over £65 to own it. Oz managed to resist the temptation of keeping it for himself.



This rare Bluebell Polish advertising pocket mirror soon found a buyer willing to pay Oz's £25 asking price.

COLLECTORS
GAZETTETOP
TIPS

USING YOUR INITIATIVE.

A guy who sells me a few bits every now and then told me about one of his clever ideas the other day. Using his computer he designed and printed off a load of small 'Old Toys Wanted' leaflets and distributed them around his neighbourhood. Amazingly he got three replies one of which landed him with a near mint-boxed Chad Valley Fordson tractor! All it took was a bit of initiative and a lot of legwork!

CLASSIFIEDS

RETAILERS

DEVON

EXETER ANTIQUE CENTRE on the Quay. Don't miss the first (or any!) instalment of an excellent lifetime's private collection of Dinky Toys (English & French), Corgi Toys, Spot-On Toys, Matchbox, Hot Wheels, Britains and Continental diecast toys, etc now being sold from Cabinet 7 at the Antique Centre on the Quay, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4AP. The collection includes rare and unusual items for sale. There is an eclectic mix of collectables at the centre and it is well worth a visit at any time. Open 7 days a week from 10am to 5pm. A cafe is situated within the centre. Tel: Brian **01803 865581**. www.exeterquayantiques.co.uk

KINGSBRIDGE ANTIQUES & CRAFT CENTRE - Holiday in South Devon this year? Then why not visit Kingsbridge Antiques & Craft Centre on the corner of Church Street & Ebrington Street TQ7 1DE, just 5 minutes walk from the Quay Car Park and the Bus Station. An ever changing stock of Antiques & Collectables including Toys & Models, Books & Militaria. Open Monday to Saturday. Tel:

01548 856002 Website: www.kingsbridgeantiques.co.uk

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KENT

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NORTHERN IRELAND

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STAFFORDSHIRE

THE TUTBURY JINNY We buy and sell new and second-hand Model Railways including - Hornby, Wrenn, Triang, Marklin, Bachmann, Lima, Dapol, Farish, LGB, etc. Contact: Barry Tutbury, Mill Mews, Lower High Street, Tutbury, Nr. Burton-upon-Trent. Tel: **01283 814777**

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10.30am - 3pm

Hall 18, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Free Parking.

Adults: £6.50, Seniors: £6, Children: £2

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■ Stafford Showground

Sunday 4th October

10.30am - 3pm

The Prestwood & Argyle Suites, County Showground, Stafford, ST18 0BD.

Adults: £3.50, Seniors: £3, Children: £2

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■ Donington Park

Sunday 11th October

10.30am - 3pm

Donington Exhibition Centre, Donington Park Racecourse, Nr. Derby, DE74 2RP.

Adults: £5, Seniors: £4.50, Children: £2

**450
STALLS**

■ Doncaster Racecourse

Sunday 18th October

10.30am - 3pm

Lazarus Exhibiton Center, Doncaster Racecourse, Leger Way, Doncaster, DN2 6BB.

Adults: £4, Seniors: £3.50, Children: £1

**350
STALLS**

■ Coventry

Sunday 25th October

10.30am - 3pm

The Connexion, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Nr. Coventry, CV8 3FL.

Adults: £4, Seniors: £3.50, Children: £1

**150
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